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Daily Report

Near East & South Asia

FBIS-NES-90-115
Thursday
14 June 1990

Daily Report
Near East & South Asia

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Inter-Arab Affairs

Arab League Envoy on Baker's Criticism of Israel

LD1406100790 Kuwait KUNA in English 0704 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Washington, June 14 (KUNA)—Clovis Maksoud, the Arab League's representative to the U.S. and the United Nations, late Wednesday lauded as "a positive development" the unusually strong criticisms of Israel by State Department Secretary James Baker earlier in the day.

In an interview with KUNA, the Arab ambassador said,

"Secretary Baker's exasperation with the congressmen today who are professional and perennial supporters of Israel is long overdue. I think that he was hearing more the echo of the Knesset rather than American Congressmen. I think that more or less stimulated this outburst.

"We welcome it albeit it is long overdue—however, we hope that it is not a momentary outburst, but an insight and a taste and what the Israelis and their supporters can do.

"If they can do this to a secretary of state, I'm sure Mr. Baker is more sensitized now to what Israel is going (in) their sufferings and ... in terms of Israeli violations."

The senior Arab official noted that Baker remained committed to support for Israel, "but definitely not any more to the objectives of Israel especially in light of the new Cabinet that has emerged, whose objectives and declarations...are well known and well established."

Maksoud said Baker realized the new, ultra-hardline Cabinet—which includes Jewish settlements enthusiast Ariel Sharon—would try hard to stymie U.S. mediation efforts in the mideast.

At the same time, the Arab envoy was optimistic that Baker's outburst would "jolt the congress" into realizing it had been "taken for a ride by the Israeli lobby and as a result become more sensible and more independent" of Israel's policies.

Moreover, Baker's surprisingly harsh remarks were "a positive development which should be nurtured and encouraged," the Arab League spokesman said.

He added the State Department secretary's congressional appearance "might awaken American public opinion to the excesses of the Israeli lobby and the way it [word indistinct] hand—especially in Congress."

[Word indistinct] the Arab world should not get "any false hopes or expectations" about a trend in U.S. policy towards freer criticism of the Jewish state, Maksoud emphasized.

Maksoud was responding to the surprising and unexpected impatience with Israel that Baker expressed earlier in the day while testifying before the House Foreign Affairs Committee.

Baker noted that "Palestinians...were prepared to come to the table and...to talk to Israelis about elections."

He said they and the U.S., too, only wanted to know if, since Baker had worked on the Israeli election for 11 months Israel was likely to open negotiations with certain named Palestinians.

"Its very hard for us...and for a lot of people to understand why we didn't get a 'yes' answer to that queston," Baker told the congressmen.

And he warned Israel that despite any political problems facing Israel the Bush Administration wanted swift action in the peace front.

Arab League Condemns Israeli 'Government of War'

LD1306204890 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] After the formation of the new Israeli Government was announced and in response to the program it has made public, the General Secretariat of the Arab League today issued a statement to the effect that the new Israeli government presented a clear picture of the reality of the Israeli policy which is based on the use of force and an exaggerated rejection of international law as a basis for peace. By looking at the three points on which the program of this program is based—namely to assimilate millions of Jewish emigrants, intensify the repression to quell the intifadah, and to consider the Palestinians as newcomers to what the Likud calls the land of Israel—it becomes obvious to anyone who had the slighest doubt that this government is a government of war against international legality and against the rights of the Palestinian people.

On the same day that Shamir stressed his determination to use all possible means to bring the intifadah to a rapid end, the new government inaugurated its new aggressive policy with an operation against dozens of children less than three years old and many pregnant women who were attacked by the occupation troops with toxic gases inside a maternity clinic in Gaza.

The Arab League can then only call on the [UN] Security Council to take the necessary and immediate measures to protect the Palestinian people inside the occupied territories.

The statement added: If anyone in the United States and Europe still believes that Israel is a democratic state they must now understand that this democracy is restricted to the Jews and no one else. It is therefore a racist democracy which uses against the Palestinians all the methods for which the dictatorial regimes became notoriously known. In the face of such facts and on the threshold of this somber future awaiting the region we can ask the question: Can Israel assimilate all these large numbers of emigrants without relying on the aid and credits which come essentially from the United States? We also wonder who will give Israel the necessary support to enable it to escalate its policy of repression and oppression in the occupied territories which is one of the bases of the program of the new government.

Palestinian Affairs

Anonymous Official Says No Further 'Concessions'

JN1306150790 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1340 GMT 13 Jun 90

[By Faruq Shukri]

[Text] Baghdad, 13 Jun (WAKH)—A Palestinian official has said the PLO is not willing to offer new concessions to keep the dialogue with the United States going.

The official, speaking on condition of anonymity, told the WAKH correspondent in Baghdad the PLO will not regret it if the United States decides to halt the dialogue.

The official was commenting on statements in Washington during the last 24 hours, again asserting the PLO should condemn the fedayeen operation off the Tel Aviv shore late last month and adopt measures against Muhammad 'Abbas (Abu-al-'Abbas), PLO Executive Committee member.

It is known the Palestine Liberation Front, led by 'Abu-al-'Abbas, claimed responsibility for the operation late last month.

The Palestinian official—who is close to Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat—added the PLO will not be subjected to blackmail or threats of any kind. Moreover, the PLO has not accepted the false promises and galling measures the U.S. Administration is presenting, he added.

These assertions came amid rapid moves the PLO initiated for an emergency meeting during the next two months of the Palestine National Council to "reassess current Palestinian policy in light of Arab and world developments."

The PLO, in two recent statements, declared its rejection of U.S. threats which are a blow to the peace efforts and provide protection for Israeli crimes.

The official indicated 'Arafat for two weeks has been subjected to intense pressure from international circles to change PLO policy. The official said: The Palestinian position on the dialogue with America will remain the same, without any change.

Leading Palestinian cadres believe the U.S. Administration's insistence that measures be adopted against 'Abu-al-'Abbas seeks to cover its veto of a draft resolution on sending a fact-finding team to the occupied territories. This veto stirred up a wave of anger and resentment in the Arab homeland.

The cadres said the PLO is determined to call for an extraordinary UN General Assembly meeting to pass a resolution providing for dispatching a fact-finding mission to the occupied land.

The official said they rejected American attempts to send a representative for the UN secretary general.

The WAKH correspondent has learned the mediators who came recently from Europe and held talks with 'Arafat carried several proposals, including moving the Palestinian-U.S. dialogue to Washington, upgrading the dialogue, and granting 'Abu-'Ammar [Yasir 'Arafat] an entry visa to the United States. This is in return for a statement condemning the al-Quds sea operation carried out by the Palestine Liberation Front.

The PLO earlier received messages from the British and Swedish foreign ministers and members of a tripartite ministerial committee that is contacting the PLO on behalf of the European Community.

Arab circles also have exerted significant efforts to contain the crisis the U.S. Administration created with the PLO.

Day of 'Popular Anger' To Protest U.S. Veto

JN1406061690 Sanaa Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] The Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah [UNLI] has called on the Palestinian masses to escalate their struggle and steadfastness in every way to confront the government of war and terrorism formed recently by Yitzhaq Shamir. In a new statement issued in Tunis last night, the UNLI called for expanding the work of the popular committees and for developing the plan of social solidarity in the interest of the working class. The statement calls for considering today a day of popular anger in protest of the recent U.S. veto—at the Security Council—against a draft resolution to dispatch a committee to study the Zionist practices and crimes in the occupied Arab territory.

PFLP-GC Condemns New Israeli Government

JN1106191490 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1630 GMT 11 Jun 90

[Text] An official source speaking in the name of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC], has commented on the formation of a Shamir-led narrow Zionist government by saying:

1. The Shamir government is the Zionist answer to the symbols of the trend of aberration and defection in the leadership of the PLO, who have wagered on what they call the peace process. The new government did away with their wagers, and asserted that the Zionist enemy does not want peace; it wants surrender. Moreover, this government does not even want an autonomous administrative entity, but wants a racist, fascist entity to accomplish the allegation of the Torah dream about an Israel which extends from the Euphrates to the Nile.

2. As all observers describe it, the Shamir government was created to suppress the intifadah and terminate the revolutionaries of the children of the stones, in order to ultimately execute the Shamir initiative, which offers even less than what was agreed upon in the Camp David accords.

3. The new government made a decision about the Zionist stand: There will be no political solution to the conflict in the Middle East, and all that is being said about international and Arab initiatives is only a smoke screen and an attempt to buy time in order to rearrange and reorganize the Zionist entity economically, geographically, and at the human level to absorb millions of Jewish emigrants who are invading Palestine, whether they are coming from the Soviet Union or some other country. This government is designed for aggression. It is a government created to declare war on the Palestinian people and the Arab nation.

4. Shamir's formation of the government further consolidates the settlement policy and will further the construction of settlements—not only in 1948-occupied Palestine, but also in all parts of the homeland, especially in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, and particularly in Jerusalem.

5. The Shamir government is the Zionist answer to all that is being said about international attempts to prevent emigres from settling in the West Bank and the Gaza Strip, especially since the one who assumes the Ministry of Housing and Absorption is Ari'el Sharon— a man well-known for his political program based on expelling Palestinian Arabs, deporting and annihilating them, and settling the new invaders in their place.

While straightening things out, the PFLP-GC reasserts that liberating Palestine cannot happen by following the approach of capitulation, abandonment, and bargaining. This can only take place by consolidating the political and military stand, escalating the intifadah, and heightening armed struggle against the Zionist military racist presence in Palestine.

The PFLP-GC believes the policy of abandonment and deception, showing the enemy all one's cards, the [Palestine Liberation] Organization's charter, recognition of the Zionist entity in Geneva and Paris, and cancelling the armed struggle are all behind this state of deterioration. Our kinfolk in Palestine, the phenomenal and great intifadah, the revolutionaries of Palestine everywhere, are all asking for the resignation of Mr. Yasir 'Arafat, because this resignation is the means to restore the vigor of armed struggle—the safest way to force the enemy to retreat.

It has been proven that all 'Arafat's schemes have been failures and a plague to the Palestinian people. All his wagers, furthermore, were a failure. Therefore, action must be stepped up to force him to resign, because this embodies the intifadah and the will of those who believe that fighting is the way to victory over the enemy and its schemes. Finally, in principle, there is no difference between Shamir forming the government, or Peres, or anyone else. Any Zionist government, regardless of its nature and the name of its leader, is surely a government of aggression, consolidation of usurpation, and implementation of the Zionist schemes to achieve its vital and important interests. It is revolution until the liberation of land and man.

[signed] The PFLP-GC

PFLP Statement

JN0906175190 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1700 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Excerpts] The formation of the new Israeli Government, which is the most rightist government—not to mention the most extremist government in the history of Israel—has created a big wave of concern not only in the occupied territories, but also in most of the Arab capitals, as well as in the capitals of the big powers. [passage omitted]

The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [PFLP] has strongly criticized this government and described it in its statement as an extremist rightist government that includes extremists. It stressed that this government could not have been formed without the U.S. Administration's support for Israel and its intransigent stands.

The PFLP added that those who believe they can confront the intifadah and the Palestinian march toward peace through their extremism are deluded. It added that the Shamir government will reap only failure.

PNC Says New Israeli Government Blocks Peace

JN1306110490 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 13 June 90 p 3

[By Lima Nabil, Special to the JORDAN TIMES]

[Text] Amman—Speaker of the Palestinian National Council (PNC) 'Abd-al-Hamid al-Sa'ih Tuesday said that the new Israeli government, headed by Yitzhaq Shamir, is clear-cut evidence that Israel does not want peace and that it is blocking all paths to peace.

In a statement to Al-Ra'y Arabic daily and the Jordan Times, al-Sa'ih said the Palestinian people, while striving to achieve peace, will not surrender to Israeli or United States demands "if their demands contravene our principled stands." He said the Palestinian people will not accept any alternative to establishing their own state on their national soil under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation, with Jerusalem as the capital.

Al-Sa'ih expressed disappointment with the new Israeli government, saying that it does not want peace. "We were hopeful that the United States will hit Israel at its hand [as published], prevent it and force it to accept the peaceful initiatives, particularly the Palestinian initiative," al-Sa'ih said.

He added that the Palestinian uprising, would continue despite all Israeli attempts to oppress it. In a reference to the PLO stand vis-a-vis armed struggle, al-Sa'ih said "although the PLO has accepted the peace principle, not one decision has been issued banning armed struggle, and it is our right to use all forms of struggle in order to restore our rights, irrespective of how long this process will take us."

Sheikh al-Sa'ih pointed out that the PLO does not want to disrupt its dialogue with the United States, although it has so far failed to realise the desired results. He said the U.S. has been opposed until now to upgrading the level of representation at the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue. He voiced hope that the U.S. will pursue the dialogue with the PLO if it really wanted to achieve genuine peace, "for dialogue with the PLO is the only means conducive to peace."

Al-Sa'ih said that the PLO was expecting the U.S. to live up to its responsibilities as a superpower, and to work for peace, rather than supporting wars, oppression and intimidation against the Palestinian people in the occupied Arab territories.

Al-Najjab Reaffirms Baghdad Summit Resolutions

JN1306183790 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1600 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Brother Sulyman al-Najjab, member of the PLO Executive Committee, has declared that observing the Baghdad summit resolutions is the only prerequisite for an effective Palestinian move on the international level. In press statements published in Tunis today, Sulayman al-Najjab said that the PLO has many factors of strength to respond to the government of terrorist Yitzhaq Shamir and its program. Among these factors are continuing the intifadah, changing [as heard] its comprehensive popular nature, challenging the Zionist entity, and returning to a unified Arab stance to support the Palestinian peace initiative and to move toward the convening of an international conference.

Al-Najjab added that world interest in the Palestinian intifadah still exists with the same momentum. The evidence is the recent Security Council meeting in Geneva.

PLO's Bal'awi Discusses U.S. Veto, Dialogue

JN0906182190 Kuwait AL-QABAS AL-DUWALI in Arabic 8 Jun 90 p 9

[Interview with Hakam Bal'awi, member of the Fatah Central Committee and ambassador of the State of Palestine to Tunisia, by Muhammad Ahmad al-Qabisi in Tunis—date not given]

[Text] [Al-Qabisi] How do you assess the U.S. veto, and what are its implications?

[Bal'awi] We have a long history with the U.S. veto, which reflects a total bias toward Israel and encourages it to continue its policy of organized aggression and terrorism. Today U.S. positions not only reaffirm this bias, but also indicate a total support for Israel's positions. This bias has exposed the U.S. policy in a practical way, and also gives evidence that Israel is only a tool for implementing a policy to foil our Arab nation's goals of liberation, progress, and independence. It is natural that the said policy is targeted against the Palestine question, the central cause of the Arab nation. Israel's maneuvers and its refusal to start the peace march are only a ploy to gain time to strike at the intifadah and smother every peace effort.

This is evident in the implications of the recent U.S. veto. As you know, the Israeli crimes, which have recently escalated and which were unanimously condemned by the whole world—excluding the United States—do not need any proof, because they shake the world's conscience every day.

Our people's right to live in security and safety is not a political luxury. On the contrary, it is an international responsibility guaranteed and recognized by international legitimacy as a basic principle of its charters, especially in light of the continued criminal Israeli plans and the Security Council's approval of the Geneva agreements—which are violated by the Israeli occupation forces in the Palestinian territories in a criminal manner every day.

The Security Council's plans to send an international fact-finding team was approved by the whole world, including the United States. Baker had said that the U.S. Administration was ready to discuss the issue. It, however, retreated and spoke of nonpermanent observers, and later proposed that the UN secretary general send an envoy. This means nothing since the UN secretary general has this right, and he had previously sent an envoy. The proposal was designed to block any Security Council resolution. Shamir had announced that he would press the U.S. Administration to use the veto.

Thus, the U.S. Administration has evidenced new proof that it protects Israel—which practices state terrorism against our people—and that a continuation of this support and protection will undoubtedly encourage Israel to continue its repression and annihilation of our people, who have proven their ability and given an example of resistance against colonialism and occupation and of steadfastness, despite all kinds of repression and annihilation, and who have asserted their ability to contribute to human civilization and participate in the advancement of many countries, despite their difficult circumstances. Our people deserve to live, as they have proven an excellent ability to survive and advance.

But the U.S. Administration, which claims that it works day and night for the sake of human rights, denies and ignores the Palestinian people's rights.

[Al-Qabisi] What are the effects of the U.S. veto on the peace march?

[Bal'awi] Through its new position on the Palestinian people's rights, the U.S. Administration has shown that it is not serious about reaching a comprehensive political solution to achieve the Palestinian people's legitimate national rights. It rejects the existence of our people as well as attempts to establish an independent state like other nations in the world. This will expose the so-called incredible U.S. role in achieving peace.

[Al-Qabisi] Is this due to the U.S. policy of monopoly?

[Bal'awi] Even if we assume that this U.S. position is part of the policy by which the United States wants to deal with Middle East peace and exclude the UN role, despite our principled rejection of these U.S. attempts, we do not see any rejection or condemnation by the U.S. Administration of the policy of terrorism and massacres by the Israeli occupation forces, although that administration is actually capable of stopping them.

There is nothing in the U.S. positions hinting, at least theoretically, at that possibility. The best U.S. position shyly called for self-restraint toward the endless bloody massacres. By this it applies the popular saying "I will neither have mercy on you nor allow anyone else to have mercy on you". Despite this, it declares that it supports peace efforts, as if the U.S. concept of peace were based on achieving Israel's desires and plans, on its refusal to respond to the international will, and on its indifference to the Palestinian people's national rights and to the PLO—the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative, which opened a dialogue with the U.S. Administration.

[Al-Qabisi] What are the repercussions of this U.S. posture?

[Bal'awi] Actually, the serious complications and repercussions of the latest U.S. veto extend beyond the limits of the Palestinian arena in that they will produce in terms of an increase in Israeli crimes and a complete loss of confidence in this policy, something which might escalate extremism and give reason for an explosion and, consequently, produce a real and serious threat to peace and security in the region and perhaps the world at large—a situation for which the U.S. Administration will be primarily responsible. These complications and repercussions will also affect and harm world order and international relations under the current stage of international detente and reconciliation, at which the U.S. Administration is aiming a heavy blow through the hegemony it exercises and the will it imposes against that of the international community. This is extremely dangerous. It is true that this isolates both U.S. and Israeli positions, but it will also lead to complications in view of the unbalanced situation which cannot continue.

[Al-Qabisi] And what do you expect after the U.S. veto?

[Bal'awi] Our battle for national independence is not tied to the U.S. position or veto. Our confidence in international legality and responsibility and the need to shoulder this responsibility are not measured by the U.S. position. Moreover, our people's struggle for freedom and independence and their resistance to occupation and defense of their existence are inalienable rights stipulated in international charters and legitimacy. Consequently, we will not lack the means to protect and defend our people and resist occupation, including efforts through the international arena and international bodies.

It should also be indicated that our people's will is free, strong, and solid. Our people have tirelessly continued their struggle for over 40 years, and are determined to continue this struggle, because peoples do not perish under occupation, but only when their will is occupied. Our people's will continues to be free and will triumph.

[Al-Qabisi] What about the coast operation and the U.S. reaction?

[Bal'awi] The U.S. reaction to the coast operation brings back to mind the 1985 Hammam al-Shatt operation against President Yasir 'Arafat, the man of peace and the statesman. That operation was a terrorist aggression and an encroachement on the sovereignty of a sisterly country. It resulted in civilian victims and destruction. President 'Arafat clearly stated our position on the coast operation. He said the PLO's institutions, cadres, and official forces had nothing to do with that operation, and that the PLO is not responsible for it.

We have not seen such a strong U.S. stance and reaction to the Hammam al-Shatt operation, or to the massacres, violations, and destruction over more than 30 months of the valiant intifadah. This causes one to question this method of political action and flawed perception in dealing with the principle of democracy, which formulates the equation of the presence of ruling regimes in our contemporary world. The U.S. Administration reiterates that democracy is the criterion governing its dealings with the world, but we see under this slogan a policy of interference in the affairs of other countries. The U.S. Administration is trying to divest our people of the principle of democracy, the most splendid accomplishment which they preserved and consecrated. We take pride in democracy, and consider it a condition for our existence as a leadership and revolution.

Within this context, we are surprised to hear what the U.S. officials said about all that has happened. Shamir is not only a war criminal and a terrorist, as is verified by his history and current massacres against the Palestinian people, but he is also being sought by international justice. Although there is more than one Shamir with the same character and the same criminal record in Israel, why does the U.S. Administration not ask the Israeli Government to dismiss him?

[Al-Qabisi] And what about dialogue and the U.S. threat to break it off?

[Bal'awi] The U.S.-Palestinian dialogue began on 16 December 1988 in Tunis under the sponsorship of President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali to discuss substantial issues concerning the peace process in accordance with what the U.S. Administration itself announced and what the PLO, the Palestinian people's sole legitimate representative, sought to do.

Thus far, we have held four expanded sessions grouping all members of the U.S. and PLO delegations, plus 53 one-on-one meetings, the most recent being between myself and Ambassador Pelletreau in my office. Since the dialogue has been under way, we have sent the U.S. Administration 54 official memos on the peace process and other related issues.

The dialogue sessions have mostly not addressed the substantive issues for which the dialogue was initiated, because the American side focused on marginal and peripheral issues. The United States has also failed to acknowledge the PLO memos and to date has failed to respond to any of them.

But the dialogue continued, because we understand the American hegemonistic mentality and given that the United States, alas, gives prcedence to its interests with Israel over its interests with the Arabs.

We have been at pains to keep the dialogue going and want to continue it, as it has been the fruit of our struggle and was initiated against the backdrop of our peace offensive, which we are sticking to on principle and as an option. Our revolution, struggle, and intifadah are peace-oriented and are meant to propel the peace process forward. As the world and the U.S. Administration only know too well, the peace process has come up against Israel's stubborness, rejectionism, and hedging, thus leading the U.S. effort to the dead end which it is now at. And yet, the U.S. Administration tries to explain away Israel's intransigence and obstruction of the policies of the United States itself.

As for us, we would like to stress our adherence to the principle of dialogue—the manner in which the most intractable problems in the world of today are being addressed. There is not one reason why we should discontinue the dialogue, which we see as the language of the times and international dealings.

Ironically, however, a superpower like the United States advocates dialogue and peace, and in the same breath threatens to sever the dialogue with the PLO, the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people and the key interlocutor for the Palestinians in any contacts with the Americans or any other party to promote a Middle East solution. The chances of a settlement can hardly be helped by bypassing the PLO or threats to break off contacts with it.

The world of today is different from that of yesterday, and it takes two partners to make peace. The Palestinian side represented by the PLO has been more than forthcoming in the cause of kicking off the peace process to promote its goals of independence, freedom, and sovereignty. On the other hand, the United States turns a blind eye to Israel's crimes and evasive tactics in the peace process, and its intransigence and blatant defiance of the will of the international community. Assuming that dialogue is not child's play, it does not befit a self-styled champion of equitable peace and superpower to issue threats and ultimatums and establish conditions.

If, for argument's sake, the United States did break off the dialogue, it will be making an irrevocable mistake, and its image and credibility will be further eroded. Great nations are to be judged by the extent to which they honor principles and take the side of peoples, above all the Palestinians, struggling for their freedom. Will the United States see the light at last? We think that if the United States still refuses to see, our people's determination will only intensify.

'Arafat Delivers 31st Monthly Intifadah Address

JN1006200990 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic
1600 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Monthly address by Yasir 'Arafat to the Palestinian people on the 31st month of the intifadah; date not given—read by announcer]

[Text] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. Remember thy Lord inspired the angels with the message: I am with you: Give firmness to the believers: I will instill terror into the hearts of the unbelievers: smite ye above their necks and smite all their fingertips off them. O ye who believe! Persevere in patience: Vie in such perseverance; strengthen each other; and fear god; that ye may prosper. [Koranic verses] O masses of the brave popular intifadah; O brave men in every city, village, and camp; O knights of national pride who explode the waves of the blessed intifadah; O defenders of your nation on the frontline on the sacred land; O steadfast men in Lebanon, who are defending the dream, the people, and the revolution; O sons of our great Palestinian people in the homeland, exile, and the diaspora: They wanted it to be a massacre terrorizing the hearts and shaking the morale. The reply came to them that in our honest struggle, we terrorize but are not terrorized, we frighten but are not frightened, we advance but do not retreat, and we defy but do not hesitate because we represent the conscience of a nation, the doctrine of the message, the pride of free men, the faith of strugglers, and the revolutionaries and strugglers. We make sacrifices without any hesitation and we also make sacrifices for the sake of right, freedom, dignity, and existence.

We are a nation that has decided to live in freedom and as master over the soil of its homeland, free and independent Palestine. We know that the dowry is high but our bride deserves our souls, blood, sweat, and tears. It is the legend of glory in this 20th century world. It will illuminate the path of all the revolutionaries, all free men, and all strugglers. In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. And another favor will he bestow, which ye do love, help from God and a speedy victory. [Koranic verse]

This genuineness and that faith which fill the hearts have proved that our masses have this huge asset of morale and potential to reaffirm their ability, their uniqueness, and their possession of that unlimited readiness to make huge sacrifices and to show unprecedented militant readiness to resist and confront. Look, the masses of our militant people—men, women, youth, and children—are there. They are surprising the whole world, which watched with interest that great scene when you started the new wave of the renewed intifadah. You have turned our sacred land into a fire under the feet of the fascist invaders. You also imposed the authority of the people with your marches, demonstrations, and strike forces. You have proved that you have the initiative to decide and that you alone shape the forms of conflict in accordance with the intifadah's program.

The great Palestinian days that followed the black Sunday massacre witnessed demonstrations and anger over the convoys of the martyrs, the wounded, and the detainees. They were the resounding voice of the unified people under the PLO. They were a decisive reply to the crime and the criminals, the students of terrorist fascism, and the organized terrorism carried out by the occupation army and the hordes of armed settlers.

With that new wave of the blessed intifadah you, O beloved ones, imposed Palestinian vision and influence on the equations of the conflicts—nationally, regionally, and internationally. You tipped the balance of power with the invaders in our people's favor and made amends for their rights by continuing and escalating the intifadah and by reaffirming that the occupation would fail and disappear.

Our intifadah and national project hold the reins to the future and impose the dimensions of victory. At the same time, you, my beloved ones, have been highlighting the elements of resistance, steadfastness, and the new resurgence of your Arab nation. In addition to all this, you have been imposing the Palestinian figure and the Arab factor within agreements, alliances, and settlements among the big powers in the era of new detente. Through blood alone, one can achieve freedom. That is why the price is not that prohibitive. Martyrdom is what we seek. Our road is lined with blood and thousands of wounded, not to mention the tribulations of the detainees and the prisoners at the hands of the barbaric Israeli-U.S. repression machine. Through this, we represent the pulse of the Arab masses and the determination of free men and mujahiddin which is charged with pan-Arab awareness and affiliation. That is why, my beloved ones, you were ever present in our minds at the Baghdad summit which was called by Palestine, the intifadah and the revolution. The Arab brothers responded to the call in Baghdad in Iraq, in lofty Iraq, the Iraq of victory, and of technological superiority. Within the sight of the heroic Iraqi epic and against the backdrop of the roar of your valiant intifadah, the Arab summit paved a historic turning point in the march of our Arab nation in the face of challenges, the U.S.-backed Israeli threats, and the international changes and developments in order to defend the existence of this nation—to be or not to be. The Baghdad summit resolutions extended absolute backing for our people's valiant intifadah and full support for the PLO and its program and political initiative. The summit also supported steadfast Iraq, and supported Jordan, Libya, and all Arab countries in order to confront the threats to pan-Arab security as a whole, including the new and large-scale Jewish emigration.

O masses of the valiant intifadah, the ugliness of the massacre against our workers in 'Ayn Qarah and the subsequent massacres, repression, and crimes have reinforced the world's realization of the essence and intentions of the ruling Zionist military establishment. The problem is not the outcome of the madness of a person, but the result of the madness of a whole regime that is still clinging to the illusions of programs of expansion and aggression. Hence, there was absolute condemnation from all corners of the world of these Israeli crimes and massacres, and on the other hand this U.S. encouragement of and collusion with Israel and with the continuation of the abominable Zionist occupation of our land. This has also heightened the international community's conviction that there can be no solution, security, or stability in the region except through the realization of the inalienable national rights of our people, including the right to repatriation, self-determination, and national independence. There is no way but to admit this fact and consequently the need to provide immediate international protection for our masses and their property and sanctities from this repressive and odious Zionist occupation.

The various countries have welcomed this stand which we declared in the name of Palestine and the people of Palestine at the UN Security Council in Geneva two weeks ago along the path of ending occupation and imposing sanctions on Israel for its defiance of international legality. The vote by 14 Security Council members a few days ago has represented the people of the world; there was also the call to send a fact-finding mission from the Council to the occupied territories to submit a report on the ways to provide such a protection to our masses. This was done with the exception of the United States which used the veto for the seventh time to protect Israel, encourage its crimes, enable it to perpetuate its occupation, support its violation of Palestinian human rights, and encourage it to expand and commit agression, undermine the peace opprtunities in the region, and drag the region to the brink of a new war that is being prepared by the Zionist occupiers and their protectors against the Arab countries for the sake of realizing their sick dreams about greater Israel.

They are now exerting pressure on our people, organization, and revolution in favor of Israel. Pressures from everywhere. O mountain you will not be shaken by the wind.

O masses of the brave popular intifadah, O sons of our Palestinian people everywhere, the new wave of the blessed intifadah has highlighted the dilemma of the Israeli occupation and clearly demonstrated that the invaders can do nothing but leave our homeland. This is in addition to the pan-Arab agreement reached at the Arab summit in Baghdad, the capital of lofty Iraq and its knightly President

Saddam Husayn. All this has aroused the ire of our nation's enemies, because it constituted and presented the decisive reply to the current challenges and the strategic balance, and the termination of the state of no-peace and no-war state and the state of no-solution.

We must, therefore, brace ourselves for future intensification from the occupiers. An occupation that is experiencing its most serious crises will resort to every means to wriggle out of it by launching attacks against Arab states and on Palestinian positions and on Palestinian leaders inside and outside the homeland and in southern Lebanon, and by escalating repression of our masses waging their blessed intifadah. But I say to them once more: The mountain is too firm to be shaken by wind and the stone of our children—our new generals—has turned into the [Iraqi] al-'Abid, al-Husayn, and al-'Abbas missiles. So lose not heart, nor fall into despair; for ye must gain mastery if ye are true in faith. [Koranic verses]

Masses of the sacred revolution of the sacred stones; revolutionaries of the battle for national independence; our heros wherever you are in all sites of the revolution and steadfastness, in southern lebanon, and in the diaspora. Fain would they extinguish God's light with their mouths, but God will not allow but that his light should be perfected, even though the unbelievers may detest. [Koranic verses] Let us give new momentum to our offensive and to the new wave of our blessed intifadah. Let our masses rise above their wounds, sacrifices, and pains. Let us keep on waging our valiant resistance—an epic whose features we must reinforce by focusing on the unique qualities of our blessed intifadah. Let us reinforce and protect our sacred national unity which has proved its solidity and effectiveness as a guarantee of continuity and the key to victory. That goes for our people from all walks of life, their associations, societies, and popular and specialist factions, and our nationalist figures and their striving factions—Fatah, Hamas, the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, the communists, the Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine, Jihad, the Arab Liberation Front, the Popular Struggle Front, the Arab Liberation front, and the Palestine Liberation Front—all of them joined in one heart and one goal and against one enemy. No voice transcends the voice of the intifadah. Truly God loves those who fight in his cause in battle array. [part of Koranic verse]

We emphasize commitment and adherence to the calls of the Unified National Leadership of the Intifadah. Let us build and activate popular committees so they co-opt all national and social activists and establish a role for it in running the affairs of daily life under the power of the people, the power of the intifadah, and reinforce the organizational structure of our forces and united strike forces. Let us intensify the activity of charity committees in solving everyday problems. Let us intensify work in all areas and services. Let us intensify action in all areas and services in urban neighborhoods, and let us work out programs full of action for our institutions, and our trade unions and professional associations, and our philanathropic societies not only in cities but also in villages and camps.

Our valiant masses; children of the State of Palestine: Let the new stage be an opportunity to contain and end any irregular manifestations that have blemished our march over the past months. Let any one of you who is free of sin cast the first stone. But how are we to transcend the mistakes and negativity. No revolution has ever succeeded if it drifts from its environ and waters. A revolution is like a fish—once you take it out of the water it dies, and so with the revolution once it is removed from the midst of the masses. The will of the people is derived from God's. Let us once more focus on committees of the revolution and all the forces to work to contain and abort the attempts of the occupiers to stoke family and tribal differences. You know the enemy. Let us denounce and through committees call to account all those who take the slippery road of stirring these seditions. We must not let anyone take the law into his own hands. Let the strike forces and popular committees raise the level of their alertness. Vigilance is all. Keep your eyes open in order to foil the occupiers' attempts to stigmatize the intifadah with reprehensible conduct like the unlicensed raising of funds. Let the activity of the committees of social solidarity and the activity of the societies of immediate relief in the besieged areas and the families being subjected to bestial repression be reinforced. All of you must stand united in one front and one heart and be dedicated to one goal to Jerusalem.

O heroes, you who are standing fast and holding out; O you who are standing fast in the jails and detention camps in Ansar and other places, standing stronger than the pain and your jailers; O children of my homeland, O women and men of my homeland: New shining pages are being written by your blood, O brave ones, in the epic of the blessed intifadah. Your unyielding steadfastness is determining the day of victory to impose on the world the new dawn that is lit by the blood of pure martyrs. The chronicles of the daily heroic struggle that you are effecting are becoming a force of action that influences the balance of power and gives our growing, victorious national plan new momentum, and pushes the occupation's retreating and defeated plan to its fatal end.

O my kinfolk and beloved ones, the knights in the Unified National Leadership, the popular committees, the strike forces; O militants in the organizations of the youth, women, workers, farmers, merchants, professionals, academicians, craftsmen, and property owners; O you heroes who went on a hunger strike in Jerusalem, outside Jerusalem, and outside the homeland; O you who dwarf your jailers in the occupation's jails and detention centers everywhere from Ansar to Junayd to those in between: Let us escalate our blessed intifadah. Let us reinforce the people's authority in the streets of our towns, villages, and camps. Let us stage popular demonstrations and marches every day. Let us defy the occupation authorities' orders, laws, and instructions.

O the beloved ones, O you who are making glory and history: You are today making the glory of your nation and your people's shining future. O knights: We are only steps away from the gate of victory. Stand fast, stand fast until victory. And hold out until freedom is achieved. Hold out, hold out until conquest. And, be patient until we reach Jerusalem, the capital of our independent Palestinian state. Dawn and glory are forthcoming; dawn is forthcoming. Victory is forthcoming; and the state is only a stone's throw away.

In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. God's good pleasure was on the believers when they swore fealty to thee under the tree: He knew what was in their hearts, and sent down tranquility to them, and he rewarded them with a speedy victory. [Koranic verse]

Revolution until victory.

Your Brother: Abu-'Ammar.

Algeria

Islamic Party Unofficially Wins 327 of 612 Lists

LD1306203290 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Statement by Interior Minister Mohamed Salah Mohamedi on results of municipal and provincial council elections; place not given, on 13 June—live or recorded]

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] Among 1,541 municipalities, we have received preliminary results. I stress the word preliminary here because these results have not been approved by the appropriate committees. From a legal point of view, these results are only preliminary.

Therefore, out of 612 municipalities, for example, we have the following results: The Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] won 327 lists, they won the majority of votes. The FLN [National Liberation Front] won 208 lists, the RCD [Rally for Culture and Democracy] won 51 lists, and the independents won 25 lists. This is a new phenomenon as far as the Algerian system is concerned. There is a significant point regarding the freedom to run for election without having to belong to any party. In 612 municipalities, the National Party for Solidarity and Development won one list.

This is first preview of the results. It remains that all the results will be at everybody's disposal as soon as the Ministry of the Interior receives them.

These partial figures confirm one phenomenon that I mentioned yesterday. They also show that the abstention rate is about 40 percent. We believe that this is a high rate of abstention.

FIS Leader Madani on 80 Percent Mandate

LD1306171490 Algiers Domestic Service in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Excerpt] [announcer] [passage omitted] Our correspondent Mahfoud Mennen has recorded for us the statements made by the spokesmen of two political parties which have achieved important results in these elections, namely the Islamic Salvation Front [FIS] and the Rally for Culture and Democracy [RCD]. Let us first listen to the statement made by the FIS spokesman:

[Begin recording] [Abassi Madani, FIS leader] In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate, and God's prayers be upon the last of his messengers [Muhammad]. First of all I congratulate the entire Algerian people, from all sections of society, who have demonstrated a high degree of awareness with which they have baffled those who bear them a grudge and their enemies. With regard to the results, there is a very, very large predominance [of the FIS], reaching even 80 and 90 percent.

[Mennen] How do you explain this?

[Madani] The explanation is that the will of the people has imposed itself. We have great faith in the Algerian people.

[Mennen] What can you say about the general atmosphere which prevailed during yesterday's elections?

[Madani] The atmosphere was also excellent. I thank the authorities for keeping their word. They had promised us tha the elections would be genuine and they were. In municipalities and provinces [wilayas] we will first of all put an end to bribery, waste, coruption, and all the negative situations which do not depend on a budget [as heard] [end recording]

[Announcer] Now follows the statement made by the RCD spokesman.

[Begin recording] [unidentified RCD spokesman] With regard to yesterday's elections, on the whole we noticed numerous irregularities throughout the country. These irregularities probably increased after his excellency the interior minister made a statement on the eve of the elections saying that every citizen could vote without presenting his or her identity card. This led some teenagers to vote and it resulted in some people voting several times. This also led to the [illegal] use of the proxy which according to the law should be used only for specific purposes. But we got in touch with officials at the level of the provinces and administrative districts and even from the security departments to witness with us that the proxy forms were being handed out unsigned without being filled in. Despite all this, the heads of the polling stations accepted these proxies. On the other hand, we also noticed that members of some political parties were acting as substitutes for the polling stations and the administration. All this took place in front of the officias—and we noticed yesterday the absence of the state's authority and the absence of the authority of the administration which could have acted as a neutral body in these elections.

Concerning yesterday's results, I can say that they show an increase in the religious and Islamic trend on the one hand but this percentage does not reflect the true aspirations and hopes of the Algerian society. There is a third trend, namely the Rally for Culture and Democracy. After yesterday's elections, we can say that the RCD is the leading democratic party in Algeria. [end recording]

[Announcer] Prior to the interior minister's statement in the early hours of this morning, we recorded the statements made by some parties. We will begin with the FLN [National Liberation Front]:

[Begin recording] [unidentified FLN spokesman] Concerning the results, in the light of the preliminary informaion we have: The elections were held in good conditions, aside from the shortcomings in the material and technical organization, and some limited irregularities. However, we noticed that some political forces did not adhere to the strict implementation of the law. Any citizens can notice that although the election campaign ended legally on 4 June there were still banners in some streets of the capital. This is a blatant violation of the law. Moreover, the citizens also noticed the pressures put on the voters outside the polling stations. These are of course practices contrary to the law and also contrary to our understanding of the democratic action in the field.

Naturally if we put aside these aspects—which we can term as parasitic diseases but whic are yet extremely serious because they give an insight into the exercise of power in the future, be it at the local level or in other spheres—I can say that as far as the FLN is concerned so long as the people express their opnion in all freedom and all democracy we respect that opinion whatever it is. [end recording]

[Announcer] The Algerian Renewal Party [PRA] made the following statement:

[Begin recording] [PRA spokesman Abderrahmane] In the name of God, the Merciful, the Compassionate. The PRA in these elections is present in 41 departments, and it has 178 lists for the municipal elections and 99 other lists for the provincial elections. In these first free elections in the history of Algeria—and we do not say only since 1962—we noticed that there were some irregularities and the most serious aspect was that in some polling stations the citizens were prevented from choosing. In several polling sations, in Annaba and in the [Algiers] district of Husayn Dey, to name but a few, there no PRA lists. In any case, we are going to lodge a complaint to have the voting in those polling stations declared null and void.

[Mennen] Mr. Abderrahmane, despite the points made by almost all the political parties, do you not think that the Algerian people have risen to the event?

[Abderrahmane] Indeed. But we say that they could have achieved a better standard. What are these political parties? The parties only consist of individuals from the Algerian people who have taken the initiative. They have not got great resources. We have said that the resources which were under state control should have been offered to all the political parties, without any exception, to enable them to voice their suggestions regarding the citizen's preoccupations. This did not happen. We said that this was a political trick and that they [the authorities] wanted to create a new form with old methods. This is where the danger lies. Democracy is now here and the people pin high hopes on it but they see that there are many ulterior motives behind it and backstage maneuvering. This solution could in fact be more dangerous than the previous situation. [end recording]

[Announcer] Let us listen now to the Socialist Vanguard Party [PAGS].

[Begin recording] [unidentified PAGS spokesman] What we can say as far as we are concerned is first that we still believe that the progress toward democracy and the consolidation of the democratic process will be a difficult, complicated, and gradual operation because the exercise of democracy needs experience and a higher degree of awareness, a better organization of the masses, and a better organization of the political parties. It also requires the interaction of the parties and the mutual respect between them, in other words the political parties must get used to exchanging views in the service of the country's higher interests. As far as we are concerned, in this campaign we did not have narrow electoral objectives but we had political objectives which can be summed up by saying that on this occasion we expand all the possibilities of meeting with the masses. We can say that it is a positive experience for our people and a positive experience for us as a party. We hope that all the parties and political trends will draw the appropriate conclusions so that the future election campaign is prepared in better objective, subjective [as heard] and political conditions, and so that the political parties respect [at least] a minimum of laws. [end recording]

[Announcer] The Social Democratic Party—Adjerid wing [PSD].

[Begin recording] [unidentified PSD spokesman] The PSD notices that the first elections in Algeria were held on the whole—in 90 or 95 percent of the cases—in good conditions. However, we noticed irregularities and shortcomings due to the blantant imperfection of the electoral law which we want revised. There are many points which have made this law very incomplete. This could lead to problems in the future. The PSD values these elections and says on the whole, praise be to God, calm prevailed and there was on the whole no violence and no massive irregularities as was expected by some foreign media and regrettably even some national media. We say on the whole congratulations to the Algerian people for this step, although small, in the democratic march. [end recording]

[Announcer] Here follows a statement by the same party but the Hamidi Khodja wing:

[Begin recording] [unidentified spokesman for Khodja faction of PSD] As far as we are concerned, we say that these elections have confirmed the maturity of the Algerian people, especially with regard to public order. We were afraid and on the eve of the elections we said that this is a first phase and we also said that there would be a breach of the peace, and so on. Praise be to God—we expected violence—but nothing of the sort happened. However, there is one thing we did not like and that is the irregularities in the implementation of the electoral law. This law published on 7 August 1989 was not legally implemented. For instance, with regard to the proxies, some people came without proxies and they still cast their votes with identity cards. In Mostaganem, we also learned that the lists of the PSD—and as you know our wing known as the Hamidi Khodja wing is present in the entire west of Algeria, and in the east and the center—were put only at 1145. This is unacceptable. In Algiers, we were also told that once a bunch of PSD lists had run out it was not replaced. The same happened to other parties, including the FLN. The parties, represented by the third and fourth lists, have approached us and told us we should lodge a joint complaint against these negative operations. [end recording]

Egypt

Israel Reportedly Masses Troops, Armor on Borders

JN1306125290 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1209 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Mustafa Bakri dispatch from Cairo]

[Text] This morning, Israel massed infantry and armor troops on the southern borders with Egypt. This development comes on the heels of vehement statements by the Israeli assistant chief of staff to the Israeli radio, in which he threatened Egypt with reoccupying Sinai and the western bank of the Suez Canal if Egypt assists Iraq in any forthcoming war with Israel.

An official Egyptian spokesman earlier condemned the statements made by the Israeli assistant chief of staff and warned against the consequences of making such statements, which he described as subversive. The spokesman added these statements represent a dangerous hostile inclination harbored by some official Israeli quarters.

I learned today Israeli Cabinet members in tomorrow's Cabinet meeting will discuss a plan submitted by Israeli Defense Minister Moshe Arens codenamed the "Security Pockets" plan. This plan reviews the possibility of dealing military blows to a number of neighboring Arab states and assassinating some influential Palestinian leaders, estimated to number 17 military leaders. Cairo expressed concern over the Israeli position. Yesterday, President Mubarak telephoned U.S. President George Bush and stressed the need to address an official and clear U.S. warning to the Israeli Government to make it halt its aggressive steps, as well as the provocative statements some Israeli leaders are making, affirming Egypt has information there are military plans to attack some Arab states.

Israeli Plan To Assassinate Palestinians Alleged

NC1306144090 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1415 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 13 Jun (MENA)—Authoritative Palestinian sources have stated the PLO recently received authentic information from a number of friendly European and African countries about an Israeli plan to assassinate ranking Palestinian leaders to confuse the PLO and deal the Palestinian intifadah a blow in the occupied territories.

In a report published by AL-ITTIHAD, the Palestinian sources said Palestinian president Yasir 'Arafat tops the list, which contains 10 Palestinian leaders. The sources said Mosad, the Israeli intelligence service, prepared the list. It also includes Faruq Qaddumi, alias Abu-al-Lutf, head of the PLO political department; Salah Khalaf, alias Abu-Iyad, second in command of the Fatah Movement; and Palestinian ambassador to Tunisia Hakam Bal'awi.

The sources pointed out that in view of the information's authenticity, Yasir 'Arafat decided to cancel his visit to Addis Ababa to attend the African summit on 10 July. He also has canceled visits to some African countries scheduled before and after the summit. 'Arafat asked Qaddumi not to take part in the summit and instead has asked Jamal al-Surani, secretary of the PLO Executive Committee, to lead the Palestinian delegation to the summit.

Butrus Ghali Reviews Regional Relations

PM1206133690 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 10 Jun 90 p 6

[Interview with Dr. Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, by Huda al-Husayni; place, date unspecified]

[Excerpts] [Al-Husayni] Does the new Ethiopian-Israeli relationship pose any threat to Egypt and the states of the Horn of Africa? And what about the Israeli dams on the River Nile and the Israeli monitoring bases in Ethiopia?

[Ghali] Ethiopian-Israeli diplomatic relations as such cannot pose a threat or constitute grounds for a protest. This is because the decision to establish diplomatic relations between two states is a sovereign decision which no third state has the right to oppose. I emphasize that Egypt has no intention of interfering in the internal affairs of either state.

What concerns us first and foremost is the establishment of peace in the region and the prevention of the emergence of new areas of tension, in order to concentrate on confronting development challenges.

So if the reports that Israel is supplying Ethiopia with certain types of weapons are correct, then this will certainly escalate tension in the Horn of Africa region, thus not serving the peace cause and harming national reconciliation efforts in Ethiopia. And if the reports that Ethiopia is allowing Israel to set up bases in some Red Sea islands are correct, then this will lead to a serious escalation in the tension in the region—not only in the Horn of Africa region, but the Red Sea region as a whole, thus threatening the security of shipping there. It will actually hamper the peace process in the Middle East, since it will be impossible to convince the Arab states of Israel's desire for peace when it is trying to undermine security in the Red Sea region as a whole.

As for the rumors about the existence of Israeli projects on the Blue Nile sources—which Ethiopian officials have denied—I am confident that Ethiopian officials, who emphasized that these rumors are untrue, are aware of the depth and diversity of the excellent links and ties binding our two countries and the need not to expose them to problems at this sensitive time, which is witnessing an increase in the level of tension throughout the Horn of Africa, in order to bolster peace efforts in that region. The general consensus is that the waters issue can only be resolved within the framework of regional cooperation among the states situated in the river basin.

[Al-Husayni] Is there any Egyptian mediation between the Ethiopian regime and the Eritrean fighters? And how do you visualize a solution?

[Ghali] There are contacts, and we call for Ethiopian unity and reject all separatist movements, whether in Sudan or in Ethiopia. This was also the case when a separatist movement emerged in Biafra, Nigeria, or the separatist movement in Katenga, Zaire, or even in Lebanon.

But for a federal system between Ethiopia and Eritrea, that must be agreed by the parties concerned.

[Al-Husayni] Is that the solution, in Egypt's view?

[Ghali] Yes, it is Egypt's view.

[Al-Husayni] Is there coordination between Egypt and Kenya over the the John Garang issue? What has been achieved in this regard so far? And how does Egypt view the situation in Sudan today? It is noted that what is happening in Sudan is aimed at partitioning the country and separating the South. What is your opinion? And has the issue of Sudan's Jonglei canal been resolved?

[Ghali] Egyptian diplomacy is doing its utmost to boost peace efforts in Sudan. On that basis we support any initiatives designed to reduce the gap between the sides involved in the dispute and to create a favorable regional climate for these efforts. There are a number of initiatives to resolve the problem. There is Zairian President Mobutu's mediation, Kenyan President Arap Moi's mediation, and Ugandan President Museveni's mediation. There is also a U.S. initiative which Herman Cohen, U.S. assistant secretary of state for African affairs, presented to the Sudanese Government in Khartoum. And John Garang held talks in Nairobi recently to discuss this subject. Furthermore, Egypt has recently worked to improve Sudanese-Ethiopian relations—a precondition for achieving a genuine and lasting peace in both states. [passage omitted]

With regard to the question of separating the South and partitioning Sudan, that is totally out of the question. The OAU charter stipulates respect for borders between states as well as respect for every state's sovereignty and regional integration. And we are determined to honor that charter. On the basis of that charter we declared our support and respect for Ethiopia's and Nigeria's safety and regional integration and for any African states facing a separatist movement. [passage omitted]

As for the Jonglei canal, it remains a living example of the effect of instability and civil war on development efforts in our African continent. That project—which represents a model of regional cooperation—could have led to an increase in Egypt's and Sudan's share of the waters needed for agricultural expansion. Existing marsh areas could have been turned into a center of agricultural and rural development, thus benefiting local inhabitants of the region, without reducing any of the Nile basin states' share of the waters. But after we had made long strides in that project, the civil war stopped work there and destroyed the equipment. We and those in charge of the project are awaiting the return of calm and peace to the region in order to complete the project, which will be a good proof of the feasibility and benefit of regional cooperation among the region's states. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] Will relations with Libya experience a period of calm? Where are the weak points in relations between the two countries? Will Cairo settle the situation between Tripoli and Washington? Egypt is calling for the Middle East to be made a region free from mass destruction weapons, while the United States accuses Libya of continuing to manufacture chemical weapons. What is your comment?

[Ghali] Egyptian-Libyan relations have experienced several different stages, varying from close rapprochement to coolness and sometimes estrangement. It can be said now that, after what they have experienced, the two countries realize more than ever before the depth and necessity of the link between them. And when media campaigns were at their peak Egyptian workers were quietly participating in the process of building the Libyan economy. So there is a historic, cultural, and social foundation for relations between the two countries—which inspires our confidence in the future of these relations, especially in view of the new relations between the Libyan and Egyptian leaders.

The points of weakness in the relationship? I cannot see points of weakness. In fact I believe—and many would share my view—that there many strong foundations that encourage cooperation between the two countries in order to strengthen their relations calmly and on the basis of symbiosis and common interests.

Proceeding from what I said, Egyptian diplomacy is working—within the framework of its continuing endeavors to establish peace in the region—to explain the Libyan position to the U.S. Administration in order to avert the eruption of any artificial crises and to facilitate contacts between the two sides. And we hope we will be able—through that endeavor—to bring the two sides' views closer together and improve their relations. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] There has been much talk about Libya's al-Rabitah plant. What is its history? And what is your opinion of what is being said now about the Arabs' right to acquire technology?

[Ghali] I have no information about that plant: Is it really a pharmaceutical plant or not? I do not know.

As for technology, it is linked to the the plan which we are calling for, that is, to establish a peace zone in the Middle East and to eliminate all mass destruction weapons, including atomic weapons.

This means that we have linked atomic weapons to chemical weapons.

Besides, if there is international inspection by the organization based Vienna, then we cannot not manufacture any kind of mass destruction weapons.

[Al-Husayni] Can the Namibia method be applied to the Middle East issue, as 'Arafat demands?

[Ghali] Yes, I believe that the Namibian method can be applied to the Middle East issue. It is a suitable method, because it starts by gathering military occupation forces in specific places, first, under the supervision of international forces. It also organizes elections under UN observers' supervision, thus providing sufficient guarantees for both sides. But in order to apply this or other examples a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue must be initiated. And the Israelis must have the necessary will and courage to start the process of a peaceful settlement, by the Israeli government—whatever it is—displaying a positive response to the U.S. proposals and its initiation of practical steps to advance peace efforts. [passage omitted]

[Al-Husayni] Some Egyptians say that a section of Soviet Jews have started to emigrate to South Africa. What truth is there in this?

[Ghali] Our position on the Soviet Jews' emigration is clear: As a principle, we do not oppose the right of any citizen—whether Jewish or not—to emigrate from any country. But we oppose the settlement of those emigrating to Israel in the occupied Arab territories. In accordance with international law, then Israeli occupation authorities have no right to change the status of the occupied region or to settle in it—which applies to all the occupied Arab territories, including East Jerusalem. The same was announced by President Bush recently. Besides, some should not enjoy certain rights by denying another people their rights. Thus the Jewish emigration to Israel must be linked to Israel's implementation of UN resolutions on the Palestinian refugees' right to repatriation.

As for their travel to southern Africa, I have no information about whether or not such reports are true.

Arab Media Conference Concludes, Issues Resolution

NC1306201090 Cairo MENA in English 1642 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, June 13 (MENA)—The Arab Information and Direct Transmission Conference stressed the importance of making available TV transmission via satellites for the general public.

In its resolutions and recommendations passed at its final session this evening attended by Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif, the Conference underlined the necessity of Arab States Radio Stations Union working out a plan enabling the Palestinian people to benefit from modern communication potentials in Arab countries in their establishment of their independent state.

The conference recommended the Arab countries and the Arab Radio Stations Union to maximally benefit from the Arab Space Network which provides viewers with additional Arab channels.

The conference also called for encouraging the private sector to contribute to the multiplicity of TV channels and assist with the increasing production costs.

The conference recommended the development of Arab TV programmes and boosting cooperation among Arab TV corporations to bring about an attractive production.

The conference also recommended coordination among Arab countries to realize national development for the Arab world though drafting out a plan in which information plays a prime role.

The conference called upon Arab information ministries to make preparations necessary for benefiting from the potentials of ARAB-SAT, now that the region has entered the era of foreign transmission via satellites.

The conference appealed to Arab TV bodies to include other Arab channels to provide their viewers with a variety of programme thus dispensing with the need for foreign channels.

Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif said that the conference was one of the most important information conferences, and that its recommendations represented a new cultural and technological step.

He pointed out that the conference's recommendations would be referred to the Arab information ministers meeting in Baghdad next August.

The conference began its proceedings last Sunday [10 June] with information experts from all the Arab countries taking part.

Soviet Envoy Polyakov Leaves Cairo 13 Jun

NC1306181690 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1735 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jun (MENA)—Vladimir Polyakov, the personal envoy of Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev, left Cairo for home today concluding a two-day visit to Egypt.

In a predeparture statement, the Soviet envoy said he had met with President Husni Mubarak and handed him a message from Soviet President Gorbachev. The message concerns the developments that emerged following the Soviet president's talks with President George Bush.

In his statement, the Soviet envoy pointed out that he also met with Dr. 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Dr. Usamah al-Baz, first Foreign Ministry under secretary and director of the president's office for political affairs.

Al-Baz Leaves for Addis Ababa 13 Jun

NC1406082790 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2128 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Cairo, 13 Jun (MENA)—Dr. Usamah al-Baz, Foreign Ministry first under secretary and director of the President's Office for Political Affairs left Cairo for Addis Ababa tonight to pay a visit to Ethiopia for two days.

Dr. al-Baz carries a message from President Husni Mubarak to Ethiopian President Mengistu Haile-Mariam.

The delegation accompanying Dr. al-Baz includes Ambassador Hasan Jad-al-Haqq, director of the African desk at the Foreign Ministry.

Libya

Somalia's Siad Attends 11 Jun Celebrations

Cooperation Meeting Resumes

EA1306182890 Mogadishu Domestic Service in Somali 2045 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] Last night, Comrade Mohamed Siad Barre, Somali Democratic Republic president, attended celebrations marking the occasion of 11 June, when the U.S. military bases in Libya were closed. Taking part in the function, held at the central base of the Libyan Air Force in Tripoli, called M'aytiqa, were forces from the Armed Forces, social organizations, students, and many other people. The celebrations lasted two hours and there were horse races and displays of aerial combat skills by aircraft of the Libyan, Moroccan, and Tunisian Air Forces. During the celebrations, songs and traditional dances were also performed by Tunisian, Libyan, Sudanese, and Tanzanian artistes. All the leaders and invited guests were pleased by all the activities of the celebrations.

The report adds that the technical committee of the two sides, which was holding talks in Tripoli, resumed its meeting to discuss further the promotion of relations in economic cooperation. On the Somali side were (Abdi Ilmi Omar), the manager of the (Libsoma) project; Comrade Ali Abdi Amalow, the deputy director general of the Central Bank; Abdirahman Osman, the Somali ambassador to Libya; and other officials. On the Libyan side, were Mr. ('Abd al-Hakim Assalimi), the chairman of foreign financing for Libya, and other officials.

Received by Al-Qadhdhafi

LD1306100490 Tripoli JANA in English 0842 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Tripoli, al-Sayf [June] 13, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The leader of the revolution received yesterday President Mohamed Siad Barre of the republic of sisterly Somalia.

The meeting was attended by the Somali deputy foreign minister.

[Tripoli JANA in English at 1446 GMT on 13 Jun 90 carries a similar report with the following addition: "Present at this meeting was Staff Major Jallud."]

Cooperation Agreement Signed

LD1306144490 Tripoli Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Excerpt] A cooperation agreement was signed in Tripoli this morning between the Great Jamahiriyah and fraternal Somalia. The clauses of the agreement covered trade exchange, participation in exhibitions organized in the two fraternal countries, and the setting up of an investment company and a Libyan Arab bank in Somalia which are fully owned by the Great Jamahiriyah. The agreement also encompassed the development of joint companies in the agricultural field. [passage omitted]

Al-Qadhdhafi Addresses Justice Sector Employees

LD1306221290

[Editorial report] Tripoli Television Service in Arabic at 2004 GMT on 13 June broadcasts a 91-minute recording of a speech by Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi delivered to judicial officials via closed-circuit television on 13 June. Al-Qadhdhafi begins by talking about the inevitability of the jamahiri system, saying that the whole world will inevitably follow the jamahiri system because capitalism, Maraxism, and all other systems have failed. Libya is leading the whole world in this direction, he claims. He has always told the masses this. He gives examples of what happened in Iran and East Europe. The masses are fed up with politicians, oppression, and exploitation, he contends, and they will rise up and establish the jamahiri system.

He goes to say he wants to establish the people's authority in the justice sector. This can only be done by establishing people's committees and people's congresses in the justice sector.

With the end of exploitation and oppression there will be no dissatisfaction among the masses, no strikes, and no tensions, he predicts. However this does not mean the end of all problems; as the jamahiri system is a living organism there are diseases, like those religious extremists the Muslim Brotherhood and al-Takfir wa'l-Hijrah (the Society for Repudiation and Renunciation, an Egyptian fundamentalist group).

The United States is fighting us not because we are Muslims, but because of the conflict of interests, he adds. Vietnam was not a Muslim country, but the United States fought against Vietnam because of the conflict of interests.

Al-Qadhdhafi goes on to stress that the Koran is the basis of all our laws. Employees of the justice sector should form their unions and associations, then form their people's committees, he says. This way they could administer their sector better than any outsider.

Justice is very important in any society, but it is even more important in a tribal backward society, he goes on. All persons should be equal before the law, and judicial employees should forget their tribal affiliations. Their professional union or association is their tribe.

There are very good laws in Libya, al-Qadhdhafi continues, but the problem is that they are not implemented. For example, there is a law that forbids eating in the street so as to preserve cleanliness and health. However it is has never been implemented. Every citizen has the duty to look at any faults and report them. Every citizen has the duty to report any deviation from law.

The great green human rights document exists and it is sacrosanct, he asserts. However, the right to travel could be restricted in time of war. Secret action is always prohibited, he stresses. You have no right to hide criminals in your house and say that the sanctity of private houses is sacrosanct. No. You cannot have the right to harm others, he stresses.

New Bangladesh Envoy Delivers Ershad Message

LD1206151190 Tripoli JANA in English 1432 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Tripoli, June 12, JAMAHIRIYAH NEWS AGENCY—The secretary of the people's committee for foreign liaison and international cooperation has recieved this morning the credentials of Mr. Mohammad Amin Islam, the new ambassador of Bangladesh accredited to Great Al-Jamahiriyah.

On presenting his credentials, Mr. Islam relayed the greetings of the president of Bangladesh, Mr. Ershad, to the leader of the revolution and the Libyan Arab people wishing the Libyan people progress and welfare. [passage omitted]

Sudan

Radio SPLA Reports Coup Detainees Released

EA1306185290 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Arabic 1330 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] 'Abd al-Rahman Farah, former head of the security organ; 'Abd al-Rasul al-Nur Isma'il, the former governor of Kordofan; retired Lieutenant General Mahdi Babu Nimr, the former chief of General Staff; retired Major General Fadlullah Burmah Nasir; retired Captain 'Abd al-Rahman Sadiq al-Mahdi and lawyer al-Tayyib Muhammad al-Tayyib have been released. They had been earlier arrested for planning the so-called first coup attempt.

Following the earlier sentences of life imprisonment and execution and sentences of various lengths for military personnel, the junta now releases these people without putting them on trial after attempts at incriminating them and damaging their reputation in the news media. This proves the lies and the fabrication of charges practised by the Islamic Front group.

SPLA Claims Envoy to Morocco Joins Opposition

EA1306153490 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in English 1300 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] Last week, while on a visit to Morocco, Colonel Muhammad al-Amin Khalifah, asked the Sudanese ambassador there, Mahjub Ibrahim, to call the Sudanese community in Morocco for a meeting with him to explain to them the current political situation in the country and the efforts that are being exerted by the junta. The ambassador told him the Sudanese community in Morocco is composed only of students studying in Morocco and that most of them are opposed to the current government, but Col. Khalifah insisted that they must be summoned. When they gathered, the students shouted anti-Islamic Front government slogans and demanded an immediate return to democracy and restoration of freedom. This (?greatly) provoked Col. al-Khalifah, who left the hall in anger and later blamed the ambassador, who advised him before not to address the students.

On his return to Sudan, the Foreign Ministry summoned the ambassador to the headquarters in Khartoum. Instead of obeying the order to report to Khartoum, Ambassador Mahjub Ibrahim called for a press conference in which he explained to the journalists the irresponsible acts of the national Islamic Front government and declared his resignation and his decision to join the ranks of opposition until the National Islamic Front system in the Sudan is overthrown.

Kassiano Reaffirms Respect for Human Rights

EA0906193590 Khartoum SUNA in English 1710 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Khartoum, 9 June (SUNA)—The RCC [Revolution Command Council] member Brigadier Dominic Kassiano has reaffirmed Sudan's respect to human rights, saying that Sudan treats political detainees according to the international conventions. Brigadier Kassiano, who received today a delegation from the Lower Saxony state who is currently visiting the country, said that Sudan's door is opened for who wants to acquaint himself with the human rights and political detainees' treatment.

He said following the meeting that they discussed bilateral relations and cooperation between Sudan and the German state, adding that the state's officials have agreed to extend assistance to displaced citizens at Equatoria region in health, education, improved seeds and agricultural equipments fields.

Al-Bashir Cites Rebel Divisions on Peace Issue

EA0906182790 Khartoum SUNA in English 0920 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Khartoum, 9 June (SUNA)—Chairman of the RCC [Revolution Command Council], Lieutenant General 'Umar al-Bashir, has affirmed that the prisons of the rebel movement are crowded with those who supported peace among its ranks. Speaking last week with the Kuwaiti newspaper "THE NATIONS' MIRROR", General al-Bashir revealed that a contact by the government with those [who] support peace was carried out, but he gave no further details about this contact.

He added that the rebel movement is torn out by acute differences between those supporting peace and those against it. He went on to say that the military camps and the secured towns are receiving rebel defectors every day.

On the other hand, member of the RCC, the political supervisor of the Equatoria region [Dominic Kassiano] told the daily "AL-SUDAN AL-HADITH" that a number of the rebel troops defected the movement and surrendered themselves to the Armed Forces in the battlefields in the Equatoria, Bahr al-Ghazal and the Upper Nile regions.

Tunisia

Interior Minister Gives 10 Jun Election Details

LD1106175290 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Jun 90

[Excerpts] Interior Minister Abdelhamid Escheikh held a press conference this afternoon at which he reviewed the final results of the municipal elections which took place yesterday throughout the republic's governorates. Here are news department correspondents Wahid Brahim and Abdelmajid Marayhi with the details:

[Begin correspondents' recording] [passage omitted] The interior minister presented figures on participation in the elections. He said the total number of those eligible to vote was 1,700,269, and those who voted totaled 1,349,566 persons. The number of spoiled ballots was 3,714. Thus, the number of permitted votes was 1,345,852. The general turnout was 79.37 percent. The Democratic Constitutional Rally [DCR] and the Independent lists contested 3,768 seats. The interior minister also pointed out that the opposition parties chose not to participate in the municipal elections. He said:

[Interior Minister Escheikh] The final number of lists was 265, 19 of which were Independent and 246 DCR. The number of lists rejected for legal reasons was eight. In only one DCR list, in the municipality of Ghannouch, where it emerged that none of its nominees had reached the necessary legal age, did the elections not take place on 10 June. It was decided, in accordance with an instruction, to summon the electors to elect municipal council on 8 July 1990, where elections in the Ghannouch constituency will take place on that date [words indistinct].

While the state provided all the facilities and preconditions for the success of the pluralist experiment, for widening the scope of the political scene, and for the active participation of tendencies and parties, many opposition parties preferred not to participate and to adopt a negative stance toward the development of this experiment. They preferred to contribute to local life in contravention of their genuine role, as represented in education, promoting awareness and participating in elections. [passage omitted] [end recording]

President Authorizes Civil Service Salary Increase

LD1106171690 Tunis Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 11 Jun 90

[Text] President Zine El Abidine Ben Ali met this morning with Prime Minister Hamed Karoui, who gave him a report on the government's activities and presented him with the agenda of the Council of Ministers, which is due to meet next Wednesday [13 June].

During the audience, the president of the Republic signed instructions concerning the increases in the salaries and wages of civil service employees.

Bahrain

Amir Receives Egyptian Minister, Mubarak Message

JN1406080990 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0730 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Manama, 14 Jun (WAKH)—His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Bin-Salman Al Khalifah, amir of Bahrain, has received a written message from Egyptian President Husni Mubarak on bilateral relations and the current Arab situation in addition to issues of common interest. Egyptian Information Minister Safwat al-Sharif conveyed the message to the amir during a meeting this morning. The message also includes the Egyptian president's greetings to the amir and wishes for continued progress and prosperity for Bahrain.

The amir of Bahrain praised the distinguished relations between Bahrain and Egypt, which are growing stronger every day. His highness affirmed the importance of increasing cooperation between the two states in all fields, particularly in the information field in the interest of the two countries. His highness also highlighted the wise policy followed by Egyptian President Husni Mubarak in strengthening Arab solidarity.

The meeting was attended by Tariq 'Abd-al-Rahim al-Mu'ayyad, Bahraini information minister; Nabil Mustafa Ibrahim, Egyptian ambassador to Bahrain; Khalil Ibrahim al-Dhuwadi, assistant under secretary of the Information Ministry for culture and national heritage; and Dr. Halah al-'Umran, assistant under secretary for radio and television.

Australian Industry, Energy Minister Visits

Received by Amir

JN1206084890 Manama WAKH in Arabic 0730 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] Manama, 12 Jun (WAKH)—Bahraini Amir His Highness Shaykh 'Isa Ibn-Salman Al Khalifah received here today Australian Primary Industry and Energy Minister John Kerin and the delegation accompanying him, currently on a visit to Manama.

During the meeting, the two sides reviewed bilateral relations, means of promoting them, and cooperation between Bahrain and Australia in the fields of agriculture, trade, industry, and energy.

Departs Manama 12 June

JN1206194690 Manama WAKH in English 1650 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] Manama, June 12 (GNA) Australian Minister of Primary Industries and Energy John Kerin and his accompanying delegation left Manama after a one day visit to Bahrain. During the visit, the Australian minister held talks with top Bahraini officials on aspects of cooperation between the two countries.

Kuwait

Crown Prince Praises Citizens' Election Turnout

LD1206202690 Kuwait KUNA in English 1629 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] Kuwait, June 12 (KUNA)—H.H. the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-Abdallah Tuesday commended citizens on selecting their representatives to the National Council and hailed their spontaneous response to the amir's call for active participation in the electoral process.

He said the process demonstrated genuineness of the Kuwaiti people, their love to their homeland and their awareness and clear perception of actualities of life.

In a statement marking the conclusion of elections Sunday Shaykh Sa'd noted that such active participation by citizens, which was undeterred by either old-age or the scorching summer heat, reflected loyalty to this good earth and people's confidence in and rallying round their leadership.

'The youth who flocked to the polling centres,' he said, 'is not only assertive of continuation of the blessed march generation after generation and a harbinger of hope and confidence in a bright future but is also indicative of the distinguished role youth will play in undertaking the responsibility of serving this dear homeland.'

Wishing the successful candidates every success in serving the electorate and the country, who have facilitated the process and hoped for continued unity and fraternity of all people of Kuwait.

ARAB TIMES Lists National Assembly Winners

JN1206180990 Kuwait ARAB TIMES in English 12 Jun 90 pp 1, 11

[Text] Kuwait, June 11, (Agencies)—Official results announced today reflected a clear sweep for pro-government candidates in elections.

The names of 50 parliamentarians were announced after the count of ballots cast yesterday was completed. The government under HH the Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah, still has to appoint 25 members to the interim National Council.

The Interior Ministry announced that 38,683 Kuwait nationals cast their votes in the 25 constituencies.

According to director of the elections department at the Interior Ministry, the figure constitutes 62.26 per cent of the total number of registered voters of 62,123-strong.

The only issue in the campaign was the form of the future legislative system, since this is what the interim council has been charged with defining.

The candidates for the new body were drawn overwhelmingly from pro-government tribes in areas outside the capital.

The list included young university students and some lawyers and businessmen with no previous political involvement.

Seven deputies of the dissolved parliament were reeleced, including Jasir Sa'd al-Jasir.

'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Masa'id, the proprietor of Al-Ra'y Al-'Amm, one of Kuwait's largest newspaper and publishing establishments, was also elected to the council.

More than 70 per cent of Kuwait's population of 1.7 million people are expatriate residents who do not have voting rights.

Only male Kuwaitis aged over 21, whose families have enjoyed Kuwaiti citizenship for more than 30 years, are eligible to vote. Women are not allowed to run for election or vote.

The turnout for the last elections to Parliament in February 1985 was about 80 per cent. Diplomats said the response on Sunday was a respectable figure, considering the fact that the assembly was virtually a consultative body.

They said a high turnout in bedouin areas outside Kuwait city and its suburbs helped offset a modest response in urban areas.

The Kuwait News Agency's list of winners included one—'Uthman 'Ali al-Najdi—with as few as 150 votes. Salman Hamid al-'Azmi's 1,266 votes were the highest won by a single candidate.

The government has expressed satisfaction at the outcome of the first national election since the suspension of the Iran-Iraq war.

West diplomats said the poll was important because it could provide a model for other Gulf states seeking a balance between greater popular representation and the traditional powers of ruling Arab families.

Kuwait is the first member-state within the prosperous six-member Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC), which also groups Saudi Arabia, Oman, Bahrain, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, to go ahead with such elections.

"The turn-out was good in all 25 constituencies," Kuwait radio quoted Interior Minister Shaykh Salim al-Sabah as saying. "The result is very encouraging."

"Citizens have ignored the opposition," said 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Masa'id, owner of Al-Ra'y Al-'Amm daily.

"The electors responded positively to the Amiri decree on the establishment of a National Council," he said. "They (the people) proved to be in favour of the country's interests, showing that they have rejected any interference in its affairs internally and externally."

To many observers, results of the National Council elections came as a surprise, particularly regarding the calibre of those who mustered the most votes and won the elections.

The tents pitched by candidates under the scorching heat of over 45 degrees Celsius and sheep and camels slaughtered to feed hundreds of supporters had given Arab and foreign diplomats and journalists the mistaken impression that those candidates could hardly be educated let alone having political awareness.

The results of the four-year National Council elections surprised some by producing a considerable number of winners, who hold diplomas from major European and American universities.

The future council members group a mixture of people, who include engineers, physicians, journalists, lawyers, teachers, government officials, businessmen, in addition to a number of former MPs.

These elections are a positive indication of what the future holds in coming elections, after the transitional house accomplishes the task entrusted to it by the recent Amiri decree.

Here is the final list of successful candidates in the June 10 elections for the National Council: CONSTITUENCIES:
1. Al-Sharq:
'Ashur Yusuf al-Sabbagh (268) / Kazim Bu-'Abbas (222).
2. Al-Mirqab:
Ibrahim 'Abdallah al-Shihab (203)/ Badr Nasir al-Bishr (172).
3. Al-Qiblah:
Khalifah al-Khurafi (215)/ 'Adil al-Badr (171).
4. Al-Da'iyah:
Saqr al-Sudan (518)/ Husam al-Rumi (488).
5. Al-Qadisiyah:
Ahmad 'Isam'il Bahbahani (264)/ Musa Ibrahim al-Juraydan (240).
6. Al-Fayha':
Mubarak al-'Utaybi (306)/ Ahmad Fahd al-Jassar (174).
7. Kayfan:
'Adil 'Uthman al-Jiran (164)/ 'Uthman 'Ali al-Najdi (150).
8. Hawalli:
Tukhaym al-Tukhaym (484)/ Jawad al-Matruk (407).
9. Al-Rawdah:
Jasir al-Jasir (700)/ 'Abd-al-'Aziz al-Masa'id (279).
10. Al-'Udayliyah:
Hamad Ibrahim al-Tuwayjiri (386)/ 'Ali Husayn al-'Umar (333).
11. Al-Khalidiyah:
Muhammad Rashid al-'Umar (160)/ Khalaf Hamad al-Tamimi (159).
12. Al-Salimiyah:
Jam'an Muhammad al-Hurayti (603)/ Rashid 'Awad al-Juwaysiri (391).

13. Al-Rumaythiyah:
'Abbas al-Khudari (1,257)/ Jasim Qabazard (649).
14. Abraq Khitan:
Hamud al-Jabri (701)/ 'Ali al-'Utaybi (468).
15. Al-Farwaniyah
Muhammad al-Musaylim (843)/ 'Ali al-Haifi (578).
16. Al-'Umariyah
Mubarak al-Khuraynj (741)/ Barrak al-Nun (664).
17. Jalib al-Shuyukh:
Muhammad al-Dahash (565)/ 'Abd-al-Karim al-Juhaydili (462)
18. Al-Sulaybikhat:
Khalaf al-'Unayzi (1,155)/ Rashid Salman al-Hubaydah (758).
19. Al-Jahrah al-Jadidah:
Munayzil al-'Unayzi (770)/ Mutlaq al-Shulaymi (494)
20. Al-Jahrah:
Talal al-'Ayar (852)/ Muhammad al-Hajraf (562).
21. Al-Ahmadi:
Falah al-'Azmi (1,082)/ Sa'dun al-'Utaybi (932).
22. Al-Riqqah
Hadi al-Huwaylah (954)/ Marzuq al-'Azmi (948).
23. Al-Subayhiyah:
Salman al-'Azmi (1,266)/ Raja al-'Azmi (1,211).
24. Al-Fuhayhil:
'Abdallah al-Khudayr (790)/ Turki al-'Azmi (773)
25. Umm al-Hayman:
'Ayid al-'Azmi (692)/ Muslih al-'Azmi (655).

Qatar

Saudi Foreign Minister Visits, Conveys Message

Meets With Amir

JN1306112390 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1010 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Doha, 13 Jun (WAKH)—Qatari Amir His Highness Shaykh Khalifah Bin-Hamad Al Thani received Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal here today. Heir Apparent and Defense Minister Shaykh Hamad Bin-Khalifah Al Thani and Foreign Minister Mubarak 'Ali al-Khatir attended the meeting.

The QATARI NEWS AGENCY has said that Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal conveyed an oral message to the Qatari amir from Saudi King Fahd Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, custodian of the two holy mosques. The message deals with the situation in the region, relations among the Gulf Cooperation Council member states, and means of promoting them. The message also deals with a number of issues of common interest and means of promoting the good relations between the two fraternal countries.

The agency also said that the talks during the meeting dealt with the situation in the region and developments in the Arab, Islamic, and international arenas.

Leaves Doha 13 Jun

JN1306112590 Manama WAKH in Arabic 1100 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Doha, 13 Jun (WAKH)—Saudi Foreign Minister Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal left Doha today following a short visit to Qatar. [passage omitted]

Saudi Arabia

Fahd Willing To Improve Relations With Iran

NC1406100990 Paris AFP in English 1001 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Riyadh, June 14 (AFP)—King Fahd of Saudi Arabia Thursday declared his willingness to improve relations with Iran, which have been tense for more than three years. "We are not opposed to...improving the atmosphere with Iran and getting rid of all the reasons that contribute to our differences with the Iranians," he said in a statement published by the Saudi daily 'Ukaz.

While they have had no diplomatic ties since 1988, Saudi Arabia and Iran recently had contacts on Iranian participation in this year's hajj, or pilgrimage, to the kingdom's Islamic holy sites. But Iran announced May 20 that it would boycott the pilgrimage for the third consecutive year, blaming Saudi refusal to lift restrictions on the number of pilgrims allowed into the country. Saudi authorities attributed the failure of the talks to Iranian insistence on the right to organize demonstrations during the hajj.

Friction between Iran, a militant Shiite nation, and Saudi Arabia, where more conservative Sunni Islam is practiced, was exacerbated during the July 1987 pilgrimage when 402 people—including 275 Iranians—were killed in disturbances around the Grand Mosque in Mecca. At the request of Saudi Arabia, the Organization of the Islamic Conference later approved quotas limiting the number of pilgrims from each Muslim nation to 1,000 per million inhabitants. Saudi Arabia, charging Iran with pursuing policies hostile to the kingdom, severed diplomatic relations in April 1988.

Saudi Interior Minister Prince Nayif Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz said Thursday that Iranian pilgrims were welcome in Saudi Arabia. "If there are obstacles preventing Iranians from going to Mecca on pilgrimage, the authorities in Tehran and not Saudi Arabia are responsible," he declared.

Prince Nayif on Iranian Pilgrims, Other Issues

LD1306223190 Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Excerpt] His Royal Highness Nayif Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz, minister of the interior, said that the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia has always welcomed and still welcomes its brothers from the Muslim Iranian people to perform the pilgrimage. He added that if there is any delay or obstacles preventing these pilgrims from performing the pilgrimage, such things emanate from the authorities present in their country and not from the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia.

His Royal Highness Nayif Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz was answering journalists' questions during a graduation ceremony of the 46th class of the King Fahd faculty this afternoon in Riyadh.

Answering a question about 1,300 pilgrims from the Soviet Union who have expressed the wish to perform the pilgrimage, the interior minister said that the Kingdom welcomes pilgrims wherever they may be in the world.

Answering a question on the organization of domestic pilgrims, his royal highness said that things are going toward achieving this. His Royal Highness Nayif Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz also answered a question regarding reports from Thai police sources stating that there was a foreign hand behind the assassination operation against Saudi diplomats in Bangkok. He noted that we have heard the statement of the Foreign Ministry which represents the stance of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia. As for the foreign quarter, it is up to the Thai authorities to reveal these quarters.

He added that we are certain that there are other non-Thais behind this act. This act was carried out for political and not personal reasons.

Answering a question on the instructions of the custodian of the two holy mosques and the heir apparent on the need to counter direct media campaigns, in his capacity as president of the Information Higher Council, His Royal Highness Nayif Bin-'Abd-al-'Aziz said that this issue is important, and is at the center of interest of the custodian of the two holy mosques and his government, and it should be at the center of the appropriate authorities so as to face up to this impending evil. He added that steps should be taken with regard to this issue and that nothing that can harm our religion, our ethics, and ancient tradition, should take place.

With regard to Gulf security cooperation, His Royal Highness said that this cooperation is excellent, thank God. [passage omitted]

Prince Sa'ud Al-Faysal Receives Senegalese Envoy

LD1206215990 Riyadh SPA in Arabic 1710 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Jeddah, 12 June (SPA)—His Royal Highness Prince Sa'ud al-Faysal, minister of foreign affairs, received in his highness's office in Jeddah today his excellency the Senegalese foreign minister, Oumar Sy. An exchange of views on Islamic affairs of common interest and bilateral relations between the Kingdom and Senegal took place during the meeting. [passage omitted]

[Riyadh Domestic Service in Arabic at 2000 GMT on 12 June adds that Senegalese Foreign Minister Oumar Sy and the delegation accompanying him left Saudi Arabia the evening of 12 June]

United Arab Emirates

Editorial Views Arab Stand on Israeli Government

JN1106073090 Abu Dhabi AL-ITTIHAD in Arabic 9 Jun 90 p 1

[Untitled editorial]

[Text] Terrorist Yitzhaq Shamir's success in forming the "coalition of extremists" in the Zionist entity harbors dangerous changes and developments. The most important of these changes is the closing of doors to any negotiations over the Arab territories occupied in 1967, or more precisely, "burying the peace option," which means opening the doors for war. This is an accurate description of the "coalition of extremists" government, and it was made by the other Israeli wing, usually called the left wing or the Labor Party, whose nucleus is the "Mapay Party," which laid the cornerstone for the establishment of the Zionist entity, and which carried out the enemy's major offensive; namely, the 1967 aggression. Despite all this, the Labor Party believes that the "coalition of extremists" will bring a "national catastrophe' to Israel. Another Israeli party, the "Mapam" believes that the "peace process" will have to wait until Shamir's government disappears.

This is the opinion of a number of Israelis about their new government and is based, first and foremost, on Israel's present and future interests. So, what is the Arab opinion about this government? Shall we say, as some people said following the collapse of the Shamir-Peres coalition, that this is an "internal affair", or, shall we view it in realistic political terms, away from dreams and delusions, and consequently adopt the necessary measures and carry out the duties that it dictates? In which case, information and diplomatic steps together with economic and other measures need to be taken to confront the dangers posed by this "coalition of extremists" in the Zionist entity. This must also be accompanied by balanced, parallel action in all directions, and must not ignore the olive branch, nor forget the talk about fighting, nor disregard the fact that diplomacy is not the only way to liberation. The liberation of the territories occupied in 1967 is a long and arduous process that requires a strong will, continuous work, and persistent efforts that can check the dangers of extremism and foil the plans of extremists. Will we adopt such a course? In fact, do we have another choice?

Arabs Must Prepare for Israeli Confrontation

JN1306160290 Dubayy AL-BAYAN in Arabic 12 Jun 90 p 1

[Editorial: "Let Us Prepare for Confrontation"]

[Text] The victory of Shamir's government and all the terrorist elements it includes, such as those calling for war, deportation, expansion, and rejection of peace; the arrogant no's stemming from Jewish myths and racist Zionist dreams; the use of military force; and U.S. financial aid and policy all push us to include our voice among those that predict war and trouble.

The Knesset members who voted for Shamir and those who opposed him—though they constantly agreed with him in rejecting Arab and Palestinian rights—all gave their vote of confidence to the program of war, absorption and settlement of emigrants, disdain for international laws and charters, and defiance of the world with the logic of the law of the jungle guided by Zionist lust and desires.

The whole of Israel said loud and clear that the land in Jerusalem, the West Bank, and the Gaza Strip was theirs; security was theirs in the Golan Heights; and the waters of southern Lebanon were theirs. Anyone who wanted otherwise had no choice but war. This is where all peace calls were shattered and all language of sanity and moderation broke down. It became clear to us that we must get ready.

This government has also been especially designed to challenge Washington and force it to swallow its attempts at political mediation in the Middle East. Its foreign minister does not even speak the language of the Americans—English—and he believes that they play a bigger role than they should. Therefore, we must ask the United States whether it will continue to play the game or whether it will reassess its accounts.

Undoubtedly, Baker's last plan on the long list of peace proposals has died in Washington itself. There is no scope for talk about reviving the plan; the Israelis reject it and the Americans always back off. Therefore, the Palestinians today have the right to ask Washington what it is going to say to Israel's responses to appeals for moderation.

Iranian Statement Called 'Irresponsible'

JN1406095490 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0920 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Baghdad, 14 Jun (INA)—The commander of the Iraqi Navy has affirmed that the statement attributed to the commander of the Iranian Navy—in which he boasted that he will prevent Iraqi warships from passing through the Strait of Hormuz—is considered an irresponsible tampering with serious issues. This came in a statement by the commander of the Iraqi Navy. Here is the text of the statement:

Commenting on the statement attributed to the commander of the Iranian Navy—in which he boasted that he will prevent Iraqi warships from passing through the Strait of Hormuz—the commander of the Iraqi Navy said that if the statement is correct, it then expresses a very serious stand, because it is considered an announcement on the intention to violate the existing cease-fire since August 1988. The commander of the Iraqi Navy asserted that such an Iranian statement is an irresponsible tampering with serious issues.

The commander of the Iraqi Navy noted that Iraq has full rights of freedom of navigation through the Strait of Hormuz and in international waters for all military and civilian purposes, just like Iran and the other regional states. He added that Iraq has been exercising this right since the cease-fire was reached and that it will allow no one to curb this right. The commander said that any act to curb this right signifies a new position on the cease-fire and the commitment to it.

Labor Minister Addresses Geneva ILO Conference

JN1306111790 Baghdad INA in English 1040 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Geneva, June 13, INA—Iraq stressed that the anti-Iraq libel media campaign launched by Zionist and imperialist circles was after creating justifications for launching a new Zionist aggression.

Addressing the conference of the International Labour Organization (ILO) now in session here, Iraqi Minister of Labour and Social Affairs Umid Midhat Mubarak said that those circles also adopted a scientific and technical embargo measures to obstruct Iraq's scientific march. He stressed Iraq's full and firm right to acquire mastery of science and technology and said that recent Iraqi scientific accomplishments created a new turn in the strategic balance in the region and introduced objective conditions for achieving peace and security and resolving disputes through peaceful means.

The Iraqi labour minister also referred to Iraq's efforts for putting an end to the state of no war, no peace, with [words indistinct] peaceful initiatives for settling the conflict with Iran and achieving lasting and comprehensive peace between the two countries and for ensuring stability and security in the region. [passage omitted]

Committee Meets on Arab League Headquarters Move

JN1306185890 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] The committee of experts emanating from the five-member ministerial commission charged with considering measures to implement the Arab League Council's decision to move Arab League headquarters to Cairo, has held a meeting chaired by Tariq 'Aziz, deputy prime minister and foreign minister.

Opening the meeting, Tariq 'Aziz addressed the participating delegations and wished the meeting success in accomplishing the tasks assigned to it in the same fraternal spirit of cooperation that prevailed during the deliberations of the extraordinary Baghdad Arab summit.

The committee will continue its meetings. It will submit a report on the outcome of its meetings to the five-member ministerial commission so that the latter can submit it to the Arab League Council at the next regular session.

It is to be recalled that the five-member ministerial commission comprises representatives from Iraq, Egypt, Tunisia, the Sultanate of Oman, Morocco, and the Arab League General Secretariat.

Saddam Presides at 11 Jun Leadership Meeting

JN1106121290 Baghdad INA in English 1140 GMT 11 Jun 90

[Text] Baghdad, June 11, INA—President Saddam Husayn today presided over a joint meeting of the Revolution Command Council and Arab Ba'th Socialist Party's regional leadership.

During the meeting, a number of the draft constitution's chapters were discussed and endorsed.

Corazon Aquino Sends Written Message to Saddam

JN1006173790 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1038 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Jun (INA)—His Excellency President Saddam Husayn has received a written message from Philippine President Corazon Aquino.

Taha Muhyi al-Din Ma'ruf, member of the Revolution Command Council and vice president, received the message when he received Mikhael Mastora [name as received], chairman of the International Relations Committee of the Philippine Congress, and his delegation today.

During the meeting, they discussed Iraqi-Philippine ties and ways to develop them.

Radio Urges Iranian Leadership To 'Choose Peace'

JN0906140990 Baghdad Voice of the National Alliance for the Liberation of Syria in Arabic 2045 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Following the termination of the Iraq-Iran war, and the failure of the aggressive and expansionist Iranian plan, which had as its target Iraq and the other Gulf states, and after Iraq's historic victory, which enhances the other successes and achievements of the national and pan-Arab resurgence, Iran had no other option but to side with logic, justice, stability, and peace and renounce the course of aggression, belligerence, interference in Arab affairs, and the export of terrorism and disorder to its Arab neighbors. But Iran took its time before responding to this logic for many reasons. Some of these were domestic, and others are regional and international considerations.

Iraq found itself duty bound to assist Iran in extricating itself from its dilemma and to encourage it to fairly and realistically deal with the new developments in the region and the world. Iraq invited it to a definitive and comprehensive peace on the basis of mutual respect for sovereign rights and the national options of each of the two peoples. Iraq also asked it to take into consideration its peoples' interests before it submits to the influence of regional and international forces that seek to maintain the state of no-war no-peace in this region.

One of the Iraqi proposals as a way out of this dilemma has been direct negotiations—away from interference, pressures, susceptibilities, and fanaticism. Iraq's initiative in this respect is a courageous initiative toward a real, lasting, and stable peace. Iran's response to this initiative is the start of freeing itself from old illusions and shaking off the hypocrisy and maliciousness the regional and international forces on the other.

However, a new Iranian beginning needs more courage and conviction. It needs firm decisions on the domestic level and within the circles of the ruling class, and firm decisions on how to deal with those who played a role in igniting, perpetuating, and prolonging the war.

We are convinced that if the Iranian leadership frees itself of the old illusions and frees itself from the influence of its old and new partners and allies, this will provide it with a historic chance to attain a just, comprehensive, and lasting peace agreement with its Arab neighbors. If this takes place, then Iran will be the winner and will lessen its own burdens. The Arabs will also be the winners. The most important thing they will gain is being able to exploit resources—which they were forced to mobilize by the confrontation with Iran—to serve their pan-Arab causes, especially the conflict with the Zionist enemy, and confrontation of the perils of Jewish emigration—not to mention confrontation of U.S. and Zionist threats.

From this premise, the Arab summit welcomed the Iraqi peace initiatives. The ball is now is in Iran's court; it has to decide whether it really wants to be a neighbor that will be a friend of the Arabs, or a power hostile to the Arab nation. In the first case, Iran will win, both for itself and the Arabs. In the second case, it will lose for both itself and the Arabs. It has two options; the peace option, the option of goodness and amity—and the option of evil, war, and illusions.

We hope that Iran will choose peace so it can devote attention to the solution of its problems, and so that the Arabs will devote their efforts to build and enhance their march of solidarity, resurgence, and facing up to the Zionist threats and provocations.

Press Affirms Desire for Peace With Iran

JN1006111890 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0550 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Text] Baghdad, 10 Jun (INA)—Iraqi newspapers comment on the historic decision made by the Revolution Command Council on 10 June 1982 announcing Iraq's readiness to accept an immediate cease-fire, terminate all hostilities, and withdraw from all Iranian territories and cities which were under Iraqi control, to its recognized borders from where Iraqi troops could continue to defend Iraqi soil and cities.

In articles and analyses published today, the newspapers describe this decision, which was made in response to an appeal by the Islamic Good Offices Committee on 9 June, as a decision that embodied Iraq's constant peace course and its sincere desire to settle the dispute fairly and honorably.

The newspaper AL-THAWRAH says that this decision reflected Iraq's firm belief that all capabilities and efforts must be devoted to confronting the fierce Zionist invasion targeting the Arab nation—the invasion which began on 6 June. The paper stresses that the decision reflected at the time the highest sense of responsibility vis-a-vis national and pan-Arab issues and demonstrated an eagerness to confront the serious and hostile conspiracy targeting the entire Arab nation—the conspiracy which threaten this nation's existence, security, and pan-Arab totality.

AL-THAWRAH recalls the series of aggressions carried out against Iraqi villages and cities by Iran in the wake of the Iraqi troop withdrawal to Iraq's internationally recognized borders and says that these aggressions were crushed thanks to the Iraqis' courageous deeds, pride, and sacrifices, which killed Iran's military option and settled the war in favor of Iraq, the Arab nation, and the cause of peace. The paper adds: When we recall this historic responsible decision, we note that it affirmed that Iraq's policy has always been a peace policy, that Iraq has never coveted Iranian territory, that it does not entertain the idea of carrying out any acts of aggression against anybody, and that it does not seek to interfere in Iran's internal affairs.

Concluding, AL-THAWRAH affirms that the historic decision to withdraw from Iranian lands was not the latest manifestation of our desire for peace, as Iraq's noble and generous peace initiatives continued to be launched during the war and after the cease-fire went into effect. The paper adds: The last peace initiative was the message sent by His Excellency President Saddam Husayn, the historic advocate of peace, to the Iranian leadership.

The newspaper AL-'IRAQ says: While recalling Iraq's peace stands, we would like to affirm that the Arab nation and the Islamic world are now in dire need of solidarity, understanding, interaction, peace, and closing of ranks before the ferocious and fateful challenges posed by the despicable British, Zionist, and U.S. plots aimed at liquidating the Palestine question, completing the usurpation of Palestine and holy Jerusalem, expanding at the expense of the Arab nation, and jeopardizing the region's security, stability, and peace.

The paper adds that attaining peace, closing ranks, and mobilizing capabilities and resources would guarantee an Arab and Muslim victory in their confrontation of these fierce challenges.

AL-'IRAQ adds: Iraq has always adopted stands that reflect its desire to achieve peace. The historic decisions made at the extraordinary Baghdad summit provide a living example of how the Arab nation and Islamic world must unify their stands, as this would help produce effective implementation of the resolutions and guarantee victory constantly.

The newspaper AL-QADISIYAH says that Iraq is eager to end the no-war, no-peace situation through negotiations with Iran. Under the headline "Our Calls Have Always Sought to Achieve Peace," the paper adds, in an article published today: Iraq is eager to conclude a peace agreement with Iran, an agreement that would safeguard the legitimate rights of the two countries and help build their bilateral ties on firm foundations based on noninterference in internal affairs and respect for each other's will, sovereignty, and options.

The paper stresses that Iraq is extremely eager to foster a future relationship with the Iranian peoples based on mutual respect, good neighborliness, and a desire to safeguard regional security and peace. The paper adds that Iraq has constantly affirmed, through the numerous peace initiatives it has launched, beginning with the unilateral cease-fire and ending with the decision to withdraw its troops to its internationally recognized borders on 10 June 1982, that it honors its moral and international commitments and also that it responds favorably to peace calls, including those made by the Islamic Good Offices Committee.

The newspaper AL-QADISIYAH says that Iraq has, since the early days of the Iranian aggression initiated on 4 September 1980, expressed its readiness to achieve peace and end hostilities. The paper refers to the affirmation made by His Excellency President Saddam Husayn when he reiterated a sincere desire to achieve this objective at the news conference he held on 28 September 1980.

AL-QADISIYAH adds that Iraq continuously launched peace initiatives, which sought to end the bloodshed, and urged Iran to enter into direct negotiations to reach a fair peace agreement between the two countries—an agreement that would safeguard each country's national rights and sovereignty, provide for noninterference in each other's internal affairs, and protect regional security.

Concluding, the paper says: We sincerely hope that our peace initiatives will be well received by Iran. We also hope that Iran will respond favorably to help achieve security, peace, and stability; so each side can devote its efforts to reconstruction and development; and also to give both sides the chance to confront the impending real dangers posed by the Zionist entity and imperialism.

Paper on 'Zionist Ambitions' in Red Sea Region

JN1006104890 Baghdad INA in English 0945 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Excerpt] Baghdad, Jun 10, INA—[passage omitted] AL-JUMHURIYAH daily of Baghdad has warned against the Zionist ambitions in the Red Sea region confirming that the unified Arab will would be capable of defeating all Zionist schemes and greeds.

The paper reviewed statements launched by the Zionist officials which confirmed the Zionist ambitions in the Red Sea region.

The paper made it clear that the Zionist entity had adopted chain of measures to consolidate its outlet on the northern side of the Red Sea. The matter which obviously confirms its continued efforts to establish solid base to be the starting point for implementing a hostile Zionist scheme to dominate the Red Sea.

The paper warned that the Zionist entity would focus during next stage on dealing blows to some Arab confronting and supporting states with the aim of liquidating will of fighting of their people and armies to abort the spirit of challenge and push their governments to seek reconciliation with the Zionist entity or at least to keep silence on crimes perpetrated by Israel against the Arab nation. [passage omitted]

Army, Pazner Deny Troop Buildup at Egypt Border

TA1306162590 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1600 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Excerpts] A Radio Monte Carlo correspondent in Cairo says that according to reports which reached the Egyptian capital, Israel concentrated large numbers of armored and infantry forces along its border with Egypt today. [passage omitted]

Tonight, Israeli Army sources vehemently denied the reports Israel has massed troops along the Egyptian border and the contention Israel plans to attack Arab countries. These claims lack any factual basis whatsoever, the sources told our Army affairs correspondent Karmela Menashe.

Avi Pazner, the prime minister's media adviser, also categorically denied the reports. He said this is PLO propaganda broadcast via Radio Monte Carlo. Israel has no aggressive designs toward any country whatsoever—and certainly not against Egypt, with which we have peaceful relations, noted Mr. Pazner in a talk with our correspondent Ze'ev Kohen. [passage omitted]

Our correspondent further adds no Israeli element in Washington knows anything about any U.S. appeal to Israel in the wake of the Bush-Mubarak conversation.

Defense Ministry Denies Planning Attack

TA1406092090 JERUSALEM GOVERNMENT PRESS Office in English 14 Jun 90

["Defense Ministry response to Radio Monte Carlo report; communicated by the Defense Minister's adviser"]

[Text] In response to a Radio Monte Carlo report that Israel is preparing to attack the Arab states, Defense Minister Moshe Arens' adviser, Dani Nave, issued the following statement:

The report on Radio Monte Carlo regarding supposed plans by Defense Minister Moshe Arens are totally baseless. Israel will continue working toward direct peace negotiations with the Arab states, despite its disappointment at their refusal to sit down at the negotiation table and to bring the state of war with Israel to an end.

Reportage on Reaction to Baker's Statement

Contacts With U.S. Initiated

TA1406062890 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0500 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Baker's remarks [that Israel should call the White House as soon as it gets serious about peace] are an unequivocal signal that the United States is awaiting Israel's initiative to resume the dialogue. This is how political sources in Jerusalem interpret the U.S. secretary of state's statement. The sources explained that as early as within the next two weeks, the Israeli prime minister and foreign minister will begin intensive contacts with the administration in Washington. Our political correspondent Natan Gutman reports:

U.S. Ambassador William Brown had a lengthy meeting last night with newly appointed Foreign Minister David Levi. Although staffers in Levi's office described it as a get-acquainted meeting, the question of Israel-U.S. relations was also raised.

A few hours before he made his statement about Israel not being serious about the peace process, Secretary of State Baker sent a congratulatory message to Minister Levi in which he stressed the U.S. commitment to pursue the peace process. Nevertheless, this message was very soon followed by a harsh statement. Political sources in Jerusalem interpret it as a clear and unequivocal signal that the United States is awaiting Israel's initiative to resume their bilateral dialogue and to move the peace process forward. The sources went on to say that the Israeli prime minister and the new foreign minister will resume their contacts with the administration in Washington within the next two weeks.

Nevertheless, a high-level political source in Jerusalem provided a different interpretation of Baker's statement. According to this source, the remarks may have been designed to soften the blow to the Arab countries in anticipation of an announcement about the suspension of the dialogue with the PLO.

Whatever the case may be, Jerusalem has definitely noted down the White House phone number which Baker gave yesterday. The next few days will witness an intensive dialogue with the United States in a bid to get relations back to normal.

Pazner Comments

TA1406103790 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1000 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] The United States did not give Israel even 100 hours of grace. A bit of patience is required so that Israel may consolidate its positions. This was the reaction of Avi Pazner, the prime minister's communications adviser, to U.S. Secretary of State Baker's remarks yesterday. Pazner added that the prime minister intends to resume the dialogue with the United States very soon. Our political correspondent Natan Gutman reports from Jerusalem:

In the wake of Secretary of State Baker's harsh remarks yesterday, Israel is asking for a grace period. Any new government is usually given 100 days of grace but, in our case, we were not given even 100 hours. This was stated today by Avi Pazner, the prime minister's communications adviser, in the first official reaction to Baker's statements.

Pazner said that a bit of patience is required so that Israel may consolidate its positions. According to him, there is no doubt that, when the dialogue resumes between Israel and the United States, there will be no need for public statements such as Baker's. Obviously, serious negotiations are not conducted by telephone and when the time comes to conduct a dialogue with the United States, it will not be done over the phone, Pazner added.

The prime minister's office also voiced its assessment that there is a correlation between Baker's declarations and the U.S. Administration's frustration over the public pressure to terminate its dialogue with the PLO. In any event, the prime minister and the foreign minister will devote the next few days to restoring the dialogue between Washington and Jerusalem, with one of the purposes being to arrange personal meetings between Levi and Baker, and between Shamir and Bush, soon.

Levi Discusses U.S. Ties

TA1306153190 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1400 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Report by political correspondent Natan Guttman]

[Text] Foreign Ministry workers this morning received the new minister, David Levi. After a brief ceremony, the foreign minister made several remarks about the political steps he intends to take. First and foremost is the rehabilitation of ties with the United States. Foreign Minister David Levi:

[Begin Levi recording] Israel has to hold thorough discussions with the United States. Israel's desire for peace is indisputable. It aspires for peace more than any other element. At the same time it insists on protecting the things essential for its existence and future. [end recording]

Levi expressed his hope that relations will improve in the wake of reopening dialogue with the United States.

As for the advancement of the peace process, the new foreign minister outlined his credo:

[Begin Levi recording] I am in favor of advancing the peace process as agreed upon in Camp David. I am for holding a meeting with Palestinian residents of Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza. I am for holding a free examination, with them, of the ways to advance the peace. I am not interested in returning to those issues and points which meant both the PLO and a Palestinian state. [end recording]

Minister Levi did not say how he intends to reply to Secretary of State Baker's question, the one over which the previous government fell. Minister Levi also expressed his willingness to meet any of the Arab countries' leaders at any given time to bring about a breakthrough in the peace process in the Middle East.

Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu is considering remaining in his post as Levi's deputy, particularly after a request to this affect was made by Prime Minister Shamir. Defense Minister Moshe Arens has asked Netanyahu to go with him to the Defense Ministry. Netanyahu will make his decision this evening.

Histadrut Says 'Entire Economy' To Go on Strike

TA1306164090 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1400 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Excerpts] The entire economy will go on strike tomorrow. The Histadrut [Labor Federation] campaign headquarters adopted this decision. Hayim Haberfeld, head of the Trade Union Branch, told our correspondent Sheli Yehimovich the decision is final and there will be no further contacts with the Treasury until after the strike. [passage omitted]

Thus, hundreds of thousands of workers will go on strike tomorrow. The education system will go on total strike, as will all government offices and companies; Histadrut offices and companies; Bezeq; Israel Broadcasting Authority; Postal Authority; ports; banks—with the exception of Bank Hamizrahi—and local authorities.

There will be no aircraft arrivals or departures between 0900 and 1700. Supermarkets will be closed from 1100 to 1500.

Hospital surgeries will be carried out as scheduled, although public health systems will operate on a Sabbath schedule. Emergency services also will operate normally.

Netanyahu Agrees To Remain at Foreign Ministry

TA1306191190 Jerusalem Television Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Deputy Foreign Minister Binyamin Netanyahu will remain in his post at the Foreign Ministry. This was agreed upon this evening in a meeting he held with Foreign Minister David Levi. The prime minister has also asked Netanyahu to stay on at the Foreign Ministry.

Shoval To Get Appointment as Ambassador to U.S.

TA1206082390 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 12 Jun 90 p A2

[Report by Menahem Rahat]

[Excerpt] Knesset Member [MK] Zalman Shoval of the RAFI [Israel Laborers List]-Ometz faction will be appointed ambassador to the United States within a month, in return for his vote last night in favor of Yitzhaq Shamir's government. The appointment was agreed on in the contacts between Likud ministers and Shoval's faction. Shoval has agreed to leave for Washington immediately.

Sources in the prime minister's bureau have confirmed that such an agreement with MK Zalman Shoval was made, but they claimed that it was not linked to Shoval's voting with MK Yiga'el Hurvitz for the government. Following this appointment, Shoval will resign from the Knesset and former MK Hayim Kaufman will take his place. Outgoing Foreign Minister Moshe Arens called Kaufman at home last night and said: Congratulations, you will be back in the Knesset within a month. [passage omitted]

Deputy Ministers of New Shamir Government Named

*TA1206085290 Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew
12 Jun 90 p 1*

[Report by Hemi Shalev]

[Text] There will be nine, and could be 11, deputy ministers in the new government. Following is the list of their names:

1. Binyamin Netanyahu (Likud)—deputy defense minister;
2. Yosef 'Azran (SHAS) [Torah Observing Sephardim]—deputy finance minster;
3. Moshe Gafni (Degel Hatora)—deputy religious affairs minister;
4. Avraham Ravitz (Degel Hatora)—deputy construction and housing minister;
5. Ge'ula Kohen (Tehiya)—deputy minister of energy and infrastructure and science and technology.
6. Pinhas Goldstein (the Movement for the Advancement of the Zionist Ideology in Israel)—deputy transportation minister;
7. Eli'ezer Mizrahi (one-man faction)—deputy health minister;
8. Efrayim Gur (one-man faction)—deputy in a yet undetermined economic ministry;
9. Yig'al Bibi, or Hanan Porat, or both (NRP) [National Religious Party]—depending on a future agreement with the Likud, which might ask that in return for the appointment of both NRP men, another Likud deputy minister be appointed to the Education or Foreign Ministry.

Editorial on Alignment's Role as Opposition

*TA1206145290 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew
12 Jun 90 p B1*

[Editorial: "The Rejectionists Won"]

[Text] The government Yitzhaq Shamir presented to the Knesset yesterday marks the return of a system of government with an unequivocal political character which, in a democratic-parliamentarian regime, means a party character. The experience of governments based on a coalition between the two major parties, with contradicting platforms, proved disappointing, at least as far as the last two governments are concerned. In principle, the return to a government called for by the nature of the system should be welcomed.

The Likud will no longer be able to argue to the extreme right that it is prevented from running affairs of state the way it wishes because it has to take into account the blocking ability of its major partner, while the Alignment will be given the opportunity to present itself as an alternative to the government.

In fact, the Alignment was in the position of an opposition party during the term of the last two governments. Likud representatives have foiled each and every one of the initiatives Shim'on Peres wanted to cultivate—first as prime minister, and later as foreign minister. A year ago it looked like the Alignment was succeeding in directing foreign policy into a channel promising progress in the effort to find a solution for the Palestinian problem, as Yitzhaq Shamir adopted Yitzhaq Rabin's idea about elections in the occupied territories. Several months later, however, it became apparent that Shamir and Arens had placed obstacles on this road as well. The political process was frozen, and the assumption that the Alignment would be able to thaw it while maintaining the large coalition was proven wrong.

It is possible that Shamir would have preferred to reconstruct the national unity government, but was not given the opportunity, not because the Alignment refused, but because the constraints camp in the Likud was determined not to return to a government with the Alignment's dovish wing. Because the Alignment failed to secure the support of the ultraorthodox factions, Shamir chose to form a government of a nationalistic character. If he felt forced to do so, he surrendered happily.

The prime minister is now singing the well-known tune: A firm hand in dealing with terror—i.e., the intifadah—and an adherence to the peace initiative "with all its components," meaning conditioning elections in the Gaza Strip and the West Bank on the termination of the state of war with all the Arab countries, solving the problem of the refugee camps, and warming up the cold peace with Egypt. He promises to aspire to tighter relations with the United States, while turning a blind eye to the U.S. focus on the issue of elections in the territories. He accuses the Alignment of "hoisting the flag of defeatism;" meaning that Shamir believes that Israel will be able to conduct a policy which the United States, all the European and Arab countries, and the Palestinians who consider the PLO their representative reject as unrealistic.

This policy has no chance of attaining its goals. It will only succeed in further isolating Israel both in regional and international arenas. It is the Alignment's duty as the largest opposition party to warn the government, the Knesset, and the public against the dangers to which Shamir's government could bring us closer. On the other hand—and this is the advantage of a partisan government over a unity government—the Likud will no longer be able to make the Alignment share responsibility for its mistakes.

There is still a chance that Shamir will see fit to soften his positions because he will have to take into account the possibility that the public will eventually make him pay for his mistakes, especially if he continues to insist on an intransigent line toward foreign elements, the United States in particular. This is a dim hope. The opposition is hereby urged to keep a close watch on the government's ways, and hope that the voter will appreciate its work when the elections for the 13th Knesset come.

Commentary Views New Ministers, Sharon Roles

TA1206152190 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 12 Jun 90 pp 1, 12

[Commentary by political correspondent Shim'on Schiffer: "In Sharon's Shadow"]

[Text] One can only guess what Ari'el Sharon must have been thinking as the ministers stepped onto the Knesset podium one after another to be sworn in.

Sharon was no doubt the man behind the establishment of the government that is starting out today, and it will remain in his shadow in the future. If he so desires, he will jolt it; if he so desires, it will operate in harmony and serenity. As of today, Sharon will be put in charge of billions of shekels to carry out building and immigrant absorption projects wherever he may wish. His steps will affect Israel's foreign policy no less than its domestic image. This will be the government of Ari'el Sharon who, through a brilliant ploy, quit the government and brought about its actual downfall and reestablishment.

Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir—to guess what must have been going through his mind last night—did his bit when he took the Knesset podium to castigate his rival Shim'on Peres for his aborted attempt to overthrow him.

Four possible successors were given positions in Shamir's new government: Moshe Nisim, who was promoted to the position of deputy prime minister; David Levi, who at long last landed the Foreign Ministry; Moshe Arens, who almost against his will was transferred to the Defense Ministry; and Ari'el Sharon, who managed to return to the government and be entrusted with a very valuable executive portfolio.

David Levi, with his sharp intuition, will do his utmost to succeed in his job. Here is a guess: His first move as foreign minister will be made toward Egypt and Morocco; the United States will follow later. Levi knows that failure in the Foreign Ministry will hinder his chances of succeeding Shamir.

Moshe Arens knows that, from his first day in the Defense Ministry, Sharon will be breathing down his neck. Sharon's onslaughts on Yitzhaq Rabin for the way he dealt with the uprising in the territories are chicken feed compared to what Arens has already heard and will yet hear from Sharon. Arens has no intention of giving up his clout in foreign policy, and he will take advantage of his position to attempt to enter a dialogue with Palestinians to prove that there are partners to the Israeli peace initiative.

The second-generation ministers who were promoted in Shamir's government—Moshe Qatzav, Ehud Olmert, Roni Milo, Dan Meridor, and David Magen—will be waiting in the second row.

The other partners will be waiting in the wings: SHAS [Torah Observing Sephardim], which joined the government against its will; Tehiya, which will not give up its idea of promoting settlement in the territories; and others.

The only glue that will keep the so-called "national" government together is power. And, as some say, this glue is stronger than any of the obstacles we have enumerated.

Shamir on UN Envoy Invitation To Territories

TA1306114790 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1005 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Report by Yo'el Nir from the Knesset in Jerusalem]

[Text] In the very first meeting of the coalition, political differences came into the open, this time over the decision to invite the UN under secretary to tour the territories. It was Ge'ula Kohen who upset the festive atmosphere, although in a milder tone, which is unusual for her.

[Begin Kohen recording] We know that a goodwill gesture is not seen as a desire for peace but as a desire for concessions. I am saying this in order to warn all of us in future moves to take all these things into account. I say it for the first time at this meeting, and I hope there will be no need to repeat it in coming meetings. [end recording]

On the other hand, Degel Hatora's Rabbi Avraham Ravitz asked to stress the aspiration for peace in the government's basic guidelines.

[Begin Ravitz recording] That is why the decision to invite the UN under secretary is a wise move. [end recording]

Moledet Knesset Member Ya'ir Sprinzak interrupted here and called out: It is an abominable act. In normal times we would have presented a motion of no confidence in the government, but as is well-known, Moledet supports the government despite the remarks.

By the way, the prime minister made clear at the end of the meeting that the invitation does not signal a change in the government's policy or an affirmative response to UN resolutions. On the new government, he said:

[Begin Shamir recording] There are those who forecast for us a short, hard life. We must prove that these are false prophecies. We must work together to show understanding for the motions, sometimes also reservations, of each faction in the coalition in order to face the pressures that will be exerted on us—and there will be pressures—in the Knesset. The government will have to face various pressures and overcome them with honor while remaining loyal to its objectives and navigating Israel in the best possible circumstances in the current situation in order to achieve the objectives we set for ourselves. [end recording]

[Jerusalem Domestic Service in English at 1000 GMT on 13 June in a similar report says that when Prime Minister Shamir was asked what is the difference between accepting the UN envoy and sending a delegation as the UN had wanted, he answered: "There is a very great difference. This envoy of the general secretary of the United Nations visited many times the area and this will be another visit." The report also quotes Foreign Ministry sources in Jerusalem as saying: "There is nothing new in Israel's invitation to the UN under secretary."

Reporter Jack Katzenell quotes an official in Jerusalem as saying there is no reason why Jean-Claude Aimee should not visit the territories. "We have nothing to hide, but the visit would have to be in the context of a Middle East tour." Katzenell says that "the question is, if the invitation is purely routine, why was it made public? It could be the first move by the new government to improve its image in the United States. Official circles in Jerusalem refused to comment."]

Gorbachev Seeks Cooperation on Immigration Issue

TA1406110890 Tel Aviv MA'ARIV in Hebrew 14 Jun 90 p A2

[Report by Moscow-based correspondent Walter Ruby]

[Text] A senior foreign affairs adviser to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said yesterday that Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir can prevent a Soviet decision to stop the wave of aliyah if he declares that there is no intention to divert Soviet immigrants to the West Bank.

In a telephone interview surprising in its conciliatory tone, Nikolay Shishlin, an adviser to the CPSU Central Committee, said that the USSR "is not inclined" to begin restricting immigration.

He said that Gorbachev, in his declaration on aliyah, left the door open for a compromise on the issue of continued Jewish emigration.

He said that what Moscow now needs is not a guarantee that no Soviet Jew will go to live in the territories, but a conciliatory statement confirming that Israel is not interested in settling immigrants in those territories.

Shishlin added: An unequivocal announcement by Shamir that people are not encouraged to go to the territories might help. It will be appreciated by the Soviet side, and I expect a positive reaction to such a statement.

According to Shishlin, Israel and the USSR must begin the conciliatory process "step by step, which will lead to the implementation of the agreement between El Al and Aeroflot for direct flights for the immigrants."

He said: From our viewpoint, the emigration issue is a human rights problem. It has now become a political problem. We are not inclined to change our view and end our policy of free emigration. We understand the problems of our Jews who packed their bags and are now facing an uncertain situation. That is really a tragedy, but in order to find a solution we need the help of Mr. Shamir.

Arens on Priority of West Bank Settlers' Safety

TA1306075190 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0700 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Defense Minister Moshe Arens expressed the hope that conditions enabling friendly relations between Jews and Arabs would prevail. Our correspondent Arye Gus reports that during a visit to Ari'el, the defense minister said that assuring the safety of the Jewish inhabitants in Judaea and Samaria is a high priority. [Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 0630 GMT on 13 June quotes Arens as saying: It is not coincidental that my first visit as defense minister is to Ari'el. I believe it must be understood that assuring the safety of the Jewish residents of Judaea and Samaria is one of the most important priorities of the State of Israel's security policy.]

Referring to methods for dealing with the intifadah, he said that deeds are preferable to words. Minister Arens refused to respond to a question about additional Jewish inhabitants in the territories or the settlement of Soviet immigrants in those areas.

In reaction to threats emanating from Arab countries after the establishment of the new government, the defense minister said that they were disappointing but not surprising. Their rulers were not democratically elected and therefore cannot understand what an elected government means. Israel never initiated a war and will not do so, therefore there is no cause for concern. When there are democratic governments in the Arab countries too, there will be no reason for concern in Israel.

The defense minister was accompanied by the chief of staff, the regional commander, and senior officers. The Ari'el local council called on the entourage to make sure the roads are safe to drive on. They also called on the minister to divert industries to Ari'el.

Expansion Planned for West Bank Settlement Town

TA1306143090 Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 13 Jun 90 p A1

[Report by Nadav Shragay]

[Text] There are plans for a significant expansion of settlements in Gush 'Etzyon in the near future. A new neighborhood, Giv'at Hazayit, will be added to the town of Efrat while the Religious Kibbutz Movement plans to set up a new kibbutz, Gva'ot, soon.

Some 420 families have registered with the building society that will construct the new neighborhood in Efrat. The society's founders include Knesset Member Hanan Porat; Uri Ari'el, chairman of the Council of Settlements in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza; Ze'ev Hever, secretary general of Gush Emunim's Amana settlement movement; and rabbis from the Merkaz Harav Yeshiva.

The initiators of the project have received the approval of some Cabinet ministers, but legal problems persist concerning the acquisition of the land. Attorney Pli'a Albeck from the Justice Ministry is expected to tour the planned site of the new neighborhood within the next few weeks.

The construction of Giv'at Hazayit, which will become part of Efrat, has aroused turmoil in the town. The neighborhood is scheduled to be inhabited by people from the settlement of Hadar Betar (who are regarded as insufficiently "ultraorthodox" by the leaders of the town of Betar). The ultraorthodox families already residing in Efrat do not bother local townsmen, but many of them believe that the arrival of hundreds of ultraorthodox families and their settling in the town as a closed community will disrupt the balance in Efrat. In addition to the existing 420 housing units, another 200 houses are currently under construction in Efrat. The supreme planning committee in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza has been asked to approve the building of another 300 housing units.

Concurrently with the activity concerning Giv'at Hazayit, the Religious Kibbutz Movement recently approved the establishment of Gva'ot, a new kibbutz to be located between Kfar 'Etzyon and Rosh Tzurim, two of the movement's veteran kibbutzim. Gva'ot is currently inhabited by Nahal Brigade soldiers, but the Religious Kibbutz Movement plans to turn it into a civilian location soon. The movement is regarded as a moderate political element within the National Religious Party, but has through the years supported settlement in Gush 'Etzyon.

Next week, the first 200 families will move into the ultraorthodox town of Betar which the Construction Ministry is building within the jurisdiction of the Gush 'Etzyon Regional Council. Another 500 housing units are currently being built in Betar, and they are expected to be completed within two years.

50,000 Immigrate in 1990; 192 Settle in Territories

TA1306170690 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Excerpt] This morning, the 50,000th immigrant since the beginning of the year arrived in Israel. Most of the new arrivals—over 43,000—were from the Soviet Union.

Immigrant Absorption Minister Yitzhaq Peretz pointed out that only 192 of this year's immigrants settled in the territories, and this was done mainly in the framework of the reunion of families. [passage omitted]

Radio Talk Disputes Attack on Syria Allegation

JN1406151790 Jerusalem in Arabic to the Arab World 1335 GMT 14 Jun 90

["Observation" by 'Ezra Shirazi]

[Text] Dear listeners: It seems that there are people in the Arab world who have begun to believe the tendentious media campaigns and glaring lies recently propagated by Arab officials and media men in an exposed bid to portray the new Israeli government as a war cabinet.

One of those Arabs who seems to have begun to believe this spurious media campaign is Walid Junblatt, the Lebanese Druze leader who is also known as leader of the Progressive Socialist Party and its Syrian-backed militias. In a statement carried by AFP the day before yesterday, Walid Junblatt said that it is necessary to turn the Lebanese Army into a brigade serving within the ranks of the Syrian Army stationed in Lebanon. He added that the Lebanese Army should be placed under the command of the Syrian military leadership to help protect Syria from any Israeli offensive, as the war drums have begun to beat in the region following the formation of the Shamir government, as Junblatt put it.

Undoubtedly, some people find this statement by Walid Junblatt ridiculous, while others find it strange. That is because those far and near are well aware that Israel harbors no intentions of attacking Syria or any other Arab state. Moreover, Israel has no vested interest in attacking Syria or any other Arab state. The abovementioned statement by Junblatt is both ridiculous and puzzling because it humiliates Syria and shows it as needing what remains of the Lebanese Army to protect it. Besides, by making this statement, Junblatt is ignoring the fact that what remains of the Lebanese Army in non-Christian areas is actually under the command of the Syrian troops stationed in Lebanon, which are occupying approximately two thirds of the country.

Antiguan Weapons Arrived in Colombia in Error

TA1406090390 Jerusalem GOVERNMENT PRESS OFFICE in English 13 Jun 90

["Colombia-Antigua: Response to Publication in WASHINGTON POST; communicated by the Defense Ministry Spokesman"]

[Text] This is the response that the Ministry of Defense gave concerning the report published in the "Washington Post".

On the 13.6.90, the Ministry of Defense spokesman said:

1. As Israel already clarified in the past, weapons sold by it to Antigua, a sovereign country, arrived in Colombia illegally. The Israeli Government is cooperating with the Antiguan and Colombian Governments in the investigation of the matter, in order to verify how the weapons got into the hands of the wrong people. The Israeli Government protested to the Antiguan Government that the delivery of weapons that were sold to the "End User" arrived at the wrong destination.

2. Israel once again clarifies the fact that no weapons of any type were sold to anyone in Colombia except to the sovereign Government of Colombia.

Gas Grenade Injures Children in Gaza Clinic

TA1206132890 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1300 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] More than 60 children, most of them babies, were injured by a gas grenade thrown by an IDF [Israel Defense Forces] soldier at an UNRWA [UN Relief and Works Agency] clinic in Gaza. Most of the children were only slightly affected, but six of them were admitted to al-Nasir Hospital.

Official Army sources have told our correspondent Arye Gus that a heavy barrage of rocks and building blocks, coming from the clinic, was directed at an IDF unit patrolling al-Nasir Street in Gaza. A patrol member, disobeying orders, threw the gas grenade and hit the clinic.

The commander of IDF forces in the Gaza Strip has investigated the incident and decided to take disciplinary measures against those involved.

CRM Praises Mandela, Extends Visit Invitation

TA1206082790 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 12 Jun 90 p 2

[Report by Yoram Bar]

[Text] Following Nelson Mandela's announcement made that he would like to visit Israel but has not been invited, the CRM [Citizens Rights Movement] has announced that it is inviting Mandela to visit Israel.

In its invitation, the CRM says that it is proud of Mandela's stand on the issue of anti-Semitism. As a movement which for years struggled against apartheid and against Israel's military ties with South Africa, it will be glad to host the man who has become a symbol of the struggle for freedom in South Africa.

Editorial Denounces Stance Against Egypt, PLO

TA1406152490 Jerusalem AL-NAHAR in Arabic 14 Jun 90 pp 1, 11

[Editorial: "The Voice of Peace...and the Israeli War Drums"]

[Text] Cairo's rejection of the threatening tones and beating of the war drums by some Israeli sides came at the appropriate moment. Egypt held Israel responsible for escalating tension and lighting the fuse of an explosive situation in the Middle East at a time when the region cannot endure further exaggerration and haughtiness.

Moshe Bar-Kokhba, the Israeli deputy chief-of-staff, in a recent statement spoke about the inevitability of the outbreak of a war in the Middle East. The Egyptian response was firm. It described such remarks as puzzling and a sign of threat, apparently representing a hostile strategy in the region and rashness by some Israeli military commanders.

Egypt, which has pursued a peace strategy since 1977, believes that the Israeli threats take the region back to the era before the signing of the Egyptian-Israeli peace agreements. Hence, the Egyptian query about Israel's intentions and whether it is preparing for new adventures in the region.

At a time when Egypt is intensely endeavoring to revive the peace efforts, Israel on its part is trying to escalate tension and pour fuel on the fire. After Egypt defined its firm stance toward the demagogic Israeli statements, its minister of state for foreign affairs, Butrus Ghali, reiterated that Egypt will continue negotiating with Israel despite the stalemated peace process and the crisis in the Middle East following the establishment of the new Israeli Government.

It is time for Israeli officials to become convinced, as others all over the world have, that the Palestinian problem cannot be resolved through a military confrontation, but through negotiations and dialogue. The Palestinian leadership put forward its peace initiative in November 1988. This leadership, backed by our Palestinian people, is still committed to this initiative.

U.S. Secretary of State James Baker is also still committed to his own initiative calling for direct dialogue between the Palestinian and Israeli sides. This was affirmed by State Department officials two days ago when they reiterated that Washington is still awaiting an official Israeli response to Baker's initiative. This statement by U.S. officials comes in the wake of the formation of the new Israeli Government, which reaffirmed that it will resume the peace process in the region, and intends to work together with the United States to advance this process. Washington believes that there is a unique opportunity for achieving peace which should not be wasted.

The question is: How will Washington be able to achieve any progress with this most extremist Israeli Government? The region's climate is gloomy and Israeli statements give no cause for hope and optimism. At a time when the world is moving toward detente in relations between its countries, and is striving to achieve comprehensive and just settlements for regional conflicts, the situation in the Middle East is completely different in light of Israel's threats and beating on war drums. The aim of this activity is to persuade the United States to abandon the region, enabling Israel to implement its schemes, whether by settling the new immigrants or by transferring the Palestinians.

Al-Qasim Discusses Peace Process, Arab Meeting

JN1306135490 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has confirmed to our radio station that Jordan has begun to hold contacts and negotiations to prepare for a meeting of Arab sides directly concerned in Israel's expansionist and aggressive policy.

The Jordanian initiative comes after the formation of an extreme rightist Israeli government under the Likud. Al-Qasim believes that the coming stage will test the extent of U.S. interest in this region. It will also constitute the moment of truth for Israeli-U.S. relations. He pointed out that Israel, over a period of many years, has managed to neutralize an effective U.S. position that could have otherwise led to a peaceful settlement guaranteeing the security of all.

Al-Qasim mentioned Shamir's moves to hinder the peace process, from his rejection of direct negotiations between the Palestinians and the Israelis, as well as of serious Arab initiatives to push the peace process forward, including Egyptian President Mubarak's 10 points, to his rejection of the Baker plan, which al-Qasim described as a serious attempt by the U.S. Administration to link the Israeli-Palestinian negotiations with the comprehensive peace process.

Lastly, al-Qasim warned of the dangers in halting the dialogue between the United States and the PLO. He asserted that this will constitute a blow to the peace process, which the PLO accepted and Shamir rejected.

Further on Al-Qasim's Remarks

JN1306184890 Amman Television Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Marwan al-Qasim, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said that the next stage in this region is a litmus test for the United States, especially in connection with U.S.-Israeli relations.

In a statement to the Jordanian television reporter, al-Qasim added that U.S. administrations have tried in the past to appease Israeli governments, justifying this by the positive results expected in the future. This policy, instead, weakened the U.S. stand, increased Israeli recalcitrance, and shook U.S. credibility in the region.

He added: Yitzhaq Shamir, who formed the new Israeli Government, rejected even the Camp David accords, rejected withdrawal from Lebanon, and sought to capitalize on the weakness of the U.S. position when he recently rejected the Baker plan—a plan originally based on point no. 4 in the selfsame Shamir plan.

Al-Qasim warned against a break-off in the dialogue between the United States and the PLO. In this regard, he said: If Washington breaks off this dialogue, it will end the role of the party that has responded to peace, that is, the PLO. The PLO made a clear commitment to peace following the resolutions of the Palestine National Council in Algeria, which led to the beginning of the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue. Since then, the Palestinian role toward peace, which is backed by the Arabs, has been defined clearly, even in the United States. Halting the U.S.-Palestinian dialogue will weaken the moderation of the PLO, and then there will be no party entrusted with negotiation on behalf of the Palestinians in the Arab-Israeli conflict, because the Palestinian side is the basis of the formula for a durable, comprehensive, and just peace in the Middle East. This peace can only be achieved by convening an international conference, based on UN Resolutions 242 and 338, and establishing the national rights of the Palestinian people on the soil of their homeland.

Al-Qasim concluded his statement by saying: Closing the door to peace in the region will lead to more instability, which will not be at the expense of a single party in particular, but will be at the expense of all parties and their interests.

Senior Official Discusses Aid, Israeli Plans

JN1406072490 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 14-15 Jun 90 pp 1, 3

[By P.V. Vivekanand, JORDAN TIMES Staff Writer]

[Text] Amman—Jordan has received a "concrete pledge" of financial aid from an Arab country; raising the amount of definite Arab financial assistance to the Kingdom to more than $200 million so far this year, a senior government official said Wednesday.

"We have received more than a pledge from a specific Arab country" in line with the decisions taken at last month's Arab summit," said the official, speaking to reporters on condition of anonymity. He did not identify the country or specify the amount, but said: "We expect to receive the aid during the next few days."

Informed sources said the source of aid was Kuwait and the amount was $75 million in cash and $65 million in petroleum products. These could not be independently confirmed. However, the officials' reference to the amount of total aid going over $200 million so far this year appeared to confirm this account.

Jordan has already received $20 million from the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and $10 million from Qatar and Iraq has pledged to give $50 million.

Shortly after the Baghdad summit, senior officials said that no specific amount of Arab financial assistance to Jordan was discussed during the conference, whose final communique affirmed the necessity to help the Kingdom but left it to individual Arab states to decide the volume of aid on a bilateral basis.

"Now, we have reached the point of discussing the specifics," the official said Wednesday. "The amount of aid have not been totally finalised, but there are very clear signs that Jordan would receive more than it received last year in Arab financial assistance," the official added. The Kingdom received $360 million in Arab financial aid during 1989, and the same amount is projected in the 1990 fiscal budget. However, the finance minister, the governor of the Central Bank and other senior officials have expressed confidence that the actual receipt would be higher.

Replying to a question on Tuesday's visit to Amman of a senior Soviet envoy who briefed His Majesty King Husayn on the outcome of the superpower summit held early this month, the official said that Jordan was "taking very seriously (Soviet President Mikhail) Gorbachev's warning to Israel" that Moscow would consider stopping the issuance of exit permits to Soviet Jews if Israel did not provide assurances that the emigres would not be settled in the occupied territories.

The Soviet leader "knew the repercussions (of the warning), which was issued in the presence of President Bush," said the official, referring to Soviet-American trade relations. Washington has said that congressional approval of a trade pact with Moscow is contingent on the Soviet Union endorsing a law allowing free emigration for all Soviet citizens. Gorbachev's position on Soviet Jewish emigration was a "matter of principle," and the official adding that it was reiterated by the Soviet envoy who was received by the King Tuesday.

While conceding that the overall situation in the Middle East was "difficult and getting to be more difficult" in the wake of a hardline right-wing Israeli government assuming office, the Jordanian official rejected suggestions that Israel was poised to launch an "invasion" of Jordan or to implement its plan of massive expulsion of Palestinians from the occupied territories.

"It is no longer easy for Israel to invade any country," said the official. "Israel's experience in Lebanon (during and after the 1982 invasion) has proved it. It would be very costly for Israel to invade Jordan," he added.

Israel will also face a tough task in implementing its plan of evicting Palestinians from the occupied territories, he said. "In 1948 and 1967 (when there was mass exoduses of people from Palestine), there was no immunity for the Palestinians," the official said. "The situation has changed now. The Palestinians have grown into a political element and a new dimension, and they are recognised as a people and nation by the international community," he added.

"Israel could apply great pressure on them, but then will the Palestinians themselves allow any eviction from their land?" the official asked. Most importantly, he said, "they have grown into a resistance force in the occupied territories and Israel will have a tough task trying to expel them."

However, it does not mean that the Israeli threats are in any way alleviated, he said citing the declared goals of the new Israeli government of expanded settlements and massive immigration of Soviet Jews.

"The whole situation is heading in the direction of instability," he said. "We have a very aggressive government in Israel which has pledged to increase settlements and massive immigration," he said. Jordan's warning that extremism was being further fuelled in the region with the new Israeli government "is the reaction from a party directly involved" in the scenario, the official said.

According to the official, neither the U.S. administration nor the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) was anxious to break their 17-month-old dialogue. "We believe that their dialogue has gone far enough for both sides to realise that neither can do without the other" in the peace process, he said.

Commenting on the recently issued report on Jordan by Amnesty International, the official said the London-based human rights organisation appeared to have adopted a "hypothetical approach" to the new defence law before the Jordanian parliament. Specifically referring to the Amnesty report's criticism of provisions in the proposed law related to detentions and martial law trials, the officials pointed out that the legislation has "first of all to be approved by parliament, without amendments if necessary."

The legislation will not take automatic effect once it is approved, he emphasised, noting that a cabinet recommendation and a royal decree was necessary to enact the law, which will be used "only at times of extreme emergencies, and even at that for limited periods."

Referring to the Amnesty report's criticism that death penalty was still in force in Jordan, the official pointed out that the issue of capital punishment had a "wide, international human aspect and legal element."

Israel Reportedly Settles Soviet Jews in South

NC1406161490 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Has Israel begun implementing a plan to settle Soviet Jews in the occupied border strip? This question was raised following reports about the arrival of a number of Soviet Jews in the border village of Rumaysh today.

NATIONAL NEWS AGENCY correspondents in the south have reported that a number of Israeli trucks and military vehicles escorted by troops arrived in the Rumaysh village yesterday. According to village inhabitants, the trucks brought a number of Soviet Jews to the outskirts of the village, north of 'Ayta al-Sha'b. The inhabitants said that the nuns of Dayr al-Liwani Convent confronted the Israeli force and asked it to withdraw from the area immediately. However, the reports stress that the Israeli force and Soviet emigrants are still in the Rumaysh village.

In another development, Israeli forces have deployed a number of tanks and armored personnel carriers in positions facing the liberated area in the eastern sector.

Deputies in Paris Deny Meeting Israeli Official

NC1006063590 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 10 JUN 90

[Excerpt] The Voice of Lebanon telephoned Deputy Pierre Hilu in Paris for an interview. Deputy Hilu denied a report in the French magazine LE POINT that the Lebanese deputies who are residing temporarily in Paris have met with Uri Lubrani, coordinator of Israeli activities in Lebanon. [passage omitted]

Delegation Reportedly Fails To Obtain Weapons

NC1006062290 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0515 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Excerpts] The presidential delegation returned to Beirut last night with the exception of Prime Minister Salim al-Huss who is expected to return in the next two days. [passage omitted]

REUTERS quoted sources of the Lebanese delegation in Tunis as saying that the delegation's efforts to obtain weapons from the countries it visited have failed. The sources added that Cairo pointed out that the United States opposes the shipment of arms to Lebanon, and Libya explained that it will supply arms only to a national Lebanese army. [passage omitted]

Al-Huss Returns

NC1006173090 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim al-Huss returned to Beirut this afternoon after accompanying President Ilyas al-Hirawi on his Arab tour. Prime Minister al-Huss described the tour as useful and positive. He expressed the hope that, with the help of its Arab brothers, Lebanon will be able to tackle the many problems facing it. Prime Minister al-Huss added that Lebanon views Arab support as essential for the continued implementation of the al-Ta'if national accord document.

Al-Hirawi Comments

NC1006083590 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0715 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Text] President Ilyas al-Hirawi and the delegation accompanying him arrived in Beirut at dawn today at the end of an Arab tour to Egypt, Libya, and Tunisia. The common denominator in the three stops of the journey was an Egyptian-Libyan-Tunisian assertion to support legitimacy and back the implementation of the al-Ta'if accord.

President al-Hirawi noted that all the Lebanese delegation's visits were successful as the three countries he visited had learned the truth about the situation in Lebanon. Al-Hirawi said: We presented our requests to revive Lebanon to the Arab brothers and left the choice of assessment up to them, according to each country's capabilities. He asserted that the efforts to unify Lebanon and to extend the legitimate Army's authority to all Lebanese territories will continue, and noted that all Lebanese will have the opportunity for national reconciliation.

Press reports said the Arabs have not given pledges or promises of aid for Lebanon, but remarked that the tour has been more than successful because the Arabs no longer have illusions about Lebanon. The reports noted that diplomatic and political support for Lebanon is much more important than financial aid.

The reports indicated that the Egyptian officials showed readiness to support the gendarmerie and that this issue was accepted by the Libyan jamahiriyah. This support, the reports said, does not apply to the army as the gendarmerie's requirements are not affected by the armament policy, because the potential assistance to the gendarmerie does not exceed light weapons and other help.

Israelis Reportedly Mine Areas Near Markaba

NC1206061490 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 0430 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] According to reports from the occupied border strip, Israel has reinforced the Marj 'Uyun barracks with 60 troops in the past few hours. The occupation forces have also dispatched a motorized force equipped with electronic gear and medium-range artillery pieces to the village of Marwahin in the western sector. The Israeli forces have planted dozen of anti-armor mines in areas adjacent to Marwahin.

Meanwhile, security reports indicated that the Israeli forces also planted mines near Markaba in the central sector and dug a special road for tanks between Shihin and Shama' in the western sector.

Resistance Group Attacks Israeli, Lahdist Patrol

NC1206164390 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1530 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] In a statement issued today, the Lebanese National Resistance Front in the south said one of its groups detonated an explosive device at dawn today as a joint patrol of the Israeli occupation forces and agent Lahd militia was passing on Tayr Harfa Road deep in the border strip. The statement added that an M-113 armored personnel carrier received a direct hit and that all aboard were killed or wounded.

Amal Executes Man For Kidnapping, Murder

NC0906150490 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1300 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] This morning the Amal Movement's security service in the South carried out the sentence of death by firing squad for Walid Husayn al-Kurdi, 24, of Beirut. The execution took place in al-Nabatiyah's main square before a crowd.

Security sources in the Amal Movement said that the death sentence was carried out because al-Kurdi kidnapped 'Ali 'Abd-al-Ghani al-Haj 'Ali of al-Nabatiyah, took him and his car from 'Abra in the Sidon area to the South, robbed him of his jewelry and money, shot him dead, and deposited his body outside Habbush to conceal his crime.

The source said that while al-Kurdi was traveling in the deceased's BMW, he was stopped at a roadblock manned by Amal Movement personnel. During questioning, he admitted his crimes, the latest being the killing of al-Haj 'Ali.

'Islamic' Source on Amal-Hizballah Meeting

NC0906075090 (Clandestine) Voice of the Oppressed in Arabic to Lebanon 0530 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Excerpt] A leading Islamic source has stated that the first meeting between Hizballah and the Amal Movement, sponsored by the Islamic Republic of Iran and Syria, was an occasion and a starting point for the two sides to submit their views on the reasons for the problem and ways to deal with it. The source said Hizballah's stand calls, in brief, for a final and comprehensive solution between the Amal Movement and Hizballah, and this meeting in itself is a significant step in the direction of this radical solution. The source stressed that the success of this meeting and the meetings to follow depend on a sound mechanism ensuring the implementation of the Damascus accord and its addendum. He noted the need to reach a formula dealing with all outstanding problems and containing a mechanism guaranteeing the implementation of the Damascus accord, which provided for the freedom of the Islamic resistance as well as the freedom of political, information, and cultural action.

The source reiterated Hizballah's assertion of the need for a lasting and comprehensive solution, rather than a temporary one that might be the cause of a new outbreak of fighting in future and a reason for displacing more people as a result of the conspirators' aggression against the resistance. The source concluded by saying that the effort is now concentrated on a dialogue that will reach a consensus on the explanation of each article of the Damascus accord, and noted that discussion now centers on the detailed application of this accord.

In another development yesterday, a meeting was held in the Beau Rivage Hotel, attended by delegations form Hizballah and the Amal Movement, in the presence of Iranian Ambassador in Damascus Shaykh Mohammad Hasan Akhtari and Brigadier Ghazi Kan'an, chief of Syrian intelligence in Lebanon. The conferees discussed the situation in Iqlim al-Tuffah within the context of a comprehensive solution based on the implementation of the Damascus accord.

In another development, Hizballah Secretary General Shaykh Subhi al-Tufayli received Brig. Ghazi Kan'an. They discussed the general political situation and ways to end the Hizballah-Amal dispute.

While efforts continue to end the fighting between Hizballah and the Amal Movement, Nabih Birri's groups caused the security situation in Iqlim al-Tuffah to flare up yesterday afternoon. An information source in Hizballah stated: At 1700 yesterday, Mlita Hill and the outskirts of Jarju' came under heavy shelling from the artillery emplacements of Birri's groups in Humin al-Fawqa and Jarju'. The source said that, at 1730, 120-mm shells began to fall in Jarju' town and Kafr Fila came under fire from 23-mm antitank weapons. Al-Rabiyah school in Kafr Milki was also subjected to violent shelling. [passage omitted]

Mexican Government Approves Envoy Appointment

NC1306120890 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1030 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] The Lebanese Government has received the Mexican Government's approval of the appointment of Fakhri Saghiyah as the new Lebanese ambassador to Mexico. Saghiyah, who is currently Lebanon's ambassador to Greece, replaces Ambassador Amin al-Khazin who has been transferred to the Lebanese permaent mission in Geneva.

Al-Asad Receives Telephone Call From Husayn

JN1306154090 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] President Hafiz al-Asad received a telephone call today from His Majesty King Husayn of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan during which they discussed issues of interest to the two fraternal countries.

Al-Shar' To Discuss Euphrates Issue in Turkey

JN1406083290 Damascus SANA in Arabic 0747 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Damascus, 14 Jun (SANA)—A Syrian Foreign Ministry spokesman has stated that, during Foreign Minister Faruq al-Shar's visit to Turkey, issues of mutual interest will be discussed, foremost being the issue of the Euphrates and the need for a speedy settlement of water distribution among the three countries which share the water—Turkey, Syria, and Iraq.

AL-BATH Cites Dangers of New Israeli Government

JN1406072390 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0445 GMT 14 Jun 90

[From the press review]

[Text] AL-BA'TH editorializes on the trends of the new Israeli Government. The newspaper says: The new government of Yitzhaq Shamir has begun its work of beating war drums, making threats, and announcing that absorbing the intensive emigration is its first priority.

AL-BA'TH writes about the members of this government, affirming that there are no limits to their aggression nor restrictions to their expansionist plans. They also disregard international law and charters, particularly Yitzhaq Shamir, who is wanted in Britain for committing crimes and killings.

The newspaper notes the statement made by Shamir at the Knesset—the statement that gives definite evidence on this policy. Shamir repeated his famous no's: No to the international conference, no to talks with the PLO, no to a withdrawal from the occupied Arab territory, no to Palestinian rights, and no to the U.S. proposals; but yes to the occupation and to settling the Jewish immigrants.

AL-BA'TH says: Leader al-Asad foretold the events, strongly sounded the alarm on 8 March, and called on the Arabs to be alert and vigilant to what is being planned against them. The Arabs are waking up today—not only upon hearing the strong alarm sounded by leader al-Asad again at the People's Assembly, but also to the sound of the Israeli threats and the beating of war drums by Tel Aviv's rulers. Hence, there is no any excuse for Arab negligence in the face of an imminent danger that calls on the Arabs to bear their historic and national responsibilities so the Arab future will not be that of Israeli hegemony, and so that the coming decade will not be the decade of the Israeli empire on Arab territory.

Commentary Stresses Arab Solidarity, Awakening

JN1306152390 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1130 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Station commentary]

[Text] Gentlemen: Intensification of Zionist settlement in the occupied Arab territories and termination of the intifadah are the two major objectives of the Zionist entity's Shamir government. These two objectives are known to occupy a place in the program of any Israeli government, because Zionist strategy has from the first been based on aggression and expansion in order to establish Greater Israel at the expense of the Arab nation's land and existence. Although Zionists might differ on the methods required to accomplish these objectives, they do not differ on the objectives per se. Moreover, they are working gradually to achieve them.

All Arabs should be aware of this fact, considering that the urgent Zionist danger threatens the Arabs as a whole; it excludes no one. Therefore, disregarding this danger and not dealing with it seriously as a prelude to facing it places the Arab nation before a confrontation whose painful results cannot be predicted. Hence, not a single Arab should relax or give up the serious responsibility entailed in the requirements of this crucial confrontation, because the regional and international situation does not afford the luxury of argumentation or of talk about the danger without accompanying it by effective, responsible action to prepare for this confrontation. The reason is that the future holds additional dangers, represented by the expansionist Zionist settlement onslaught and by the statements of the Zionist enemy's leaders; mainly, their determination to reject peace, go on with the policy of aggression and expansion, and (?adopt) all means to blot out the valiant intifadah in the occupied Arab territories.

Reviewing these realities, the Arab nation is called upon now, more than ever before, to bring about real Arab solidarity through which the nation can avail itself of a great deal of security while fighting out the battles imposed now and in the future. The way to accomplish this is through a real Arab awakening that can produce this solidarity and impart to it strength, efficacy, continuity, and development. This, in turn, will enable the Arab nation to seize the historical initiative and to regain its confidence in itself, its capabilities, and its ability to liberate the land, restore its rights, and ward off the imminent danger threatening its existence and destiny. Struggler President Hafiz al-Asad has warned the Arab nation against this pressing danger and called for a real Arab awakening. Moreover, he addressed the Arabs at large to rise to the level of the historical pan-Arab responsibility in this confrontation, because these dangers will affect the pan-Arab destiny, leaving not a single Arab unharmed. The Arabs are asked to struggle to effect Arab unity because it is a matter of identity and destiny. Pending the achievement of unity, however, they should secure an effective solidarity which can protect them from the evils of past experiences.

Assembly Members Named, To Convene 10 Jun

JN0206204090 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 2 Jun 90

["Text" of decree no. 67 issued by President Hafiz al-Asad naming the new members of the fifth legislative term of the People's Assembly and calling it to convene on 10 June 1990, in Damascus on 2 June]

[Text] Decree no. 67; based on the paragraphs of the general elections law issued by constitutional decree no. 26 on 14th of the fourth month in 1973 and its amendments, and decree no. 62 on the 17th of the ninth month 1410 hegira and 12th of the fourth month 1990, which includes setting the date for the People's Assembly elections for the fifth legislative term of 1990; and after reviewing the Ministry of Interior's decision no. 496/MN [Arabic letters "mim" and "nun"] on the third of the 11th month 1410 hegira and the 27th of the fifth month 1990 a.d., which includes announcing the final results of the elections and the names of those who won them, the president of the republic decrees the following:

Article 1: The gentlemen whose names appear in the following are the ones who won elections and are thus named members of the People's Assembly:

1. Province of Damascus:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Muhammad 'Abduh Musbah Baghdadi, Faruq Muhammad Thurayah, Bashirah Shaykh 'Arif Tawakalna, Wisal Muhammad 'Ali Farhah, 'Abd-al-Qadir Ibrahim Haqqi Qaddurah, 'Abd-al-Razzaq Salih Aqbiq, Muhammad Mahmud Marwan Shikhu, Ahmad Zaki Haydar, Basil Milad Dahduh, Mahmud Mustafa Salamah.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
Muhammad Muhammad Khayr Amin Abu-al-Shamat, Ahmad Sharif al-Ghafari, Ilyas Kamil Nijmah, Muhammad 'Abd-al-Razzaq Shakir Sa'id, 'Ali Subhi al-Turkmani, Muhammad Muhyi-al-Din Fu'ad al-'Ashsha, 'Abdallah Muhammad 'Ali Tulbah, Firyal Bashir Mahayni, Amal Hamdi Dakkak, Muhammad Lutfi Munir Rihawi, Badi' Subhi Fallahah, Baha'-al-Din Muhammad Hasan, Muhammad 'Umar Ihsan Sunqur, Mahmud 'Abdallah Jabr, Muhammad Bakri Alusi, Muhammad 'Adil Ma'mun al-Humsi, Muhyi-al-Din Jamil Jum'ah, Muhammad 'Arif Zuhayr al-'Awwa, Collette Suhayl Khuri.

2. Province of Damascus Rural Area:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Hamdan Khalid Khushayni, Zakiyah Mikha'il Massarah, Hilal Khalid Rizq, Mahmud 'Abd-al-Latif al-Biqa'i, Muhammad Khalil Shaddad, Dhahir Ra'if Abu-Khulayf, Muhammad 'Abd-al-Karim Akram Zaydan, Hind 'Abd-al-Latif Hititani, 'Aziz Salim Karbuj, 'Umar Khalil 'Aybur.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
'Abd-al-Hafiz Mahmud al-Qalish, Amin 'Abd-al-Ghani Hayrab, Yusuf Mustafa Ju'aydani, 'Abduh Badawi Qasim, Mustafa Rifa'i 'Awwad al-Rifa'i, 'Ali Muhammad Qabalan, 'Abd-al-Rahman Sa'id al-Ahmar, Muhammad Ahmad 'Abd-al-'Azim, Emile Yusuf al-'Unayni.

3. The City of Allepo:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Ahmad Muhammad Nuri Tawfiq Qirmah, Ahmad Mahmud al-Labid, Darwish 'Abd-al-Qadir Darwish, Muhammad al-Shaykh Muhammad Bashir Fatih Hamwi, Manar Muhammad Nadim Natur, Ahmad Muhammad Nuri Mawaldi, Muhammad Muhammad Sa'id 'Ali Shuwihna.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
Husayn 'Abd-al-Hamid Ka'kah, 'Ala'-al-Din 'Abd-al-Qadir Zaytun, Ahmad 'Ali 'Idu, Layla Hasan Turkmani, 'Umar Muhammad Wasfi Martini, Muhammad Muhammad Sa'id Marwan Saqqal, Mustafa Mahmud Sukkari, Jurji Musa 'Azar, Ahmad Muhammad Adib Badr-al-Din Hassun, Muhammad Muhammad 'Ali 'Adil Jamus, Muhammad Muhammad 'Adil Huri, 'Abd-al-'Aziz Muhammad al-Shami, Ibrahim 'Abd-al-Qadir 'Azzuz.

4. Other areas in the Province of Halab:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Muhammad Mustafa al-Husayn al-Ibrahim, Nur-al-Huda Sami Ahmad Khillu, Husayn Ahmad Hajji Mahmud, 'Abd-al-Hamid Dibu al-Dibu, Muhammad Hasan 'Aqil Husayn Agha, Wahid Zahir Abu-Ras, Jasim Husayn al-Ibrahim, 'Isa 'Ubayd al-Zamil, Muhammad Bashir Qazan, Sami Muhammad al-Shihabi, Ibrahim Rashid 'Uthman, 'Uthman Hajji Sulayman, Madhat Ahmad Milla-Qulaghasi, Hikmat Subhi Ibrahim, Dhiyab Haji-Shawwakh al-Mashi, Muhammad 'Abdallah Sa'id Yusuf, Husni Jamil Hasan.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
Muhammad Mahmud Rahhal, Muhammad Muhammad al-Hasan, 'Abd-al-Razzaq 'Abduh Hamdu al-Shihan, Ahmad Sa'id al-Sa'id, Mustafa 'Ali al-'Ali, Salim Karim al-Hammadah Karim, 'Abd-al-Rahman Ibrahim al-Khalil Nasir, Battal 'Arif Battal, Ahmad 'Isa Muhammad, Junayb Bakri Tajir, Fadil Hamid Kannu, Yusuf 'Abdallah Yusuf Tarbush, 'Abd-al-Hamid Khalil al-Ghabbari, 'Abd-al-Rahman Khalil Ibu, Mustafa Ahmad al-Muhammad.

5. Province of Hims:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Marwan 'Abd-al-Razzaq Huriyah, Mahmud Ibrahim al-Dhiyab, Ilyas Mitri al-Lati, Huda Nu'man al-Kurdi, Mustafa Qasim al-'Isa, Haydar 'Abd-al-Rahman 'Abbas,

Jum‘ah Muhammad al-Hammud, ‘Abd-al-‘Aziz Tirad al-Milhim, Nazih Wasfi Sa‘id, Mahmud Fad‘us Fad‘us al-Ramadan, Ahmad Muhammad Darbuli.

Sector B: Other sectors of the people:
Hikmat Hasan al-Khuli, Muhammad ‘Abd-al-Mun‘im Yasir al-Saqqa, Mahmud Khadr Ma‘ruf, Muhammad ‘Adil Ghazi Tayyarah, Mashhur Murhib Gharibah, Muhammad ‘Abd-al-‘Aziz al-Aqra‘, ‘Umar Ahmad Bakkur, Shihadah Kamil Mayhub, ‘Ali Khadr al-Khaddur, Ahmad ‘Ubayd al-Khalid, Salih ‘Abd-al-Qadir Talas, Bahjat ‘Abd-al-Majid Rajjub.

6. Province of Hamah:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Husayn Murshid Husayn, Fatimah Muhammad al-Saqqa, Amin ‘Abduh Bakir, Michel Najib Rishah, Fatimah Muhammd Nuri al-Jajah, Musafa ‘Ali ‘Isa, Ahmad ‘Ali al-As‘ad, Mahmud Muhammad Hammud, Husayn Muhammad Husayn, Ibrahim ‘Ali Haydar, ‘Abd-al-Karim Ma‘at al-Isma‘il, Mazwad Jasim al-Jasim, Mujib Nimr Salamah.

Sector B: other sectors of the people:
Walid Hamdun Muhammad Raghib, Walid ‘Abd-al-Qadir Jad‘an, Muhammad Muhammad Wahid Shams-al-Din Qannut, Ahmad Ibrahim al-‘Ali, Muhammad Mustafa ‘Adnan Sulayman, Ibrahim Mahmud Za‘rur, Hasan ‘Abd-al-Razzaq al-Sibahi, Lu‘ayy Husayn al-Hilu, Ahmad Harun al-Khattab.

7. Province of al-Ladhiqiyah:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Tawfiq Mahmud Ibrahim, Rafiq Ayyub Darwish, Suhayl As‘ad Kan‘an, Layla Muhammad ‘Afif Ghalwinji, Tawfiq Hasan Darwish, Mahmud Muhammad ‘Ujayl, Mustafa Muhammad ‘Abd-al-Halim, Bahjat ‘Aziz Sa‘d, Ibrahim Hanna al-Lawzah.

Sector B: other sectors of the people:
Jamil ‘Ali al-Asad, Ahmad Musa Abu-Musa, Muhammad Ahmad As‘ad, ‘Adnan Najib ‘Ali Khuzayn, Sirri Amin Haddad, Basil Ilyas Yusuf, Muhammad ‘Ali Yunus Nasir, Fayiz ‘Uthman ‘Uthman.

8. Province of Idlib:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
‘Abd-al-Razzaq Muhammd al-Tannari, Muhammad Wajih Nazir Duwaydari, Muhammad Qaddur Qarran, Bashirah ‘Abd-al-Rahman Hamid, Tawfiq ‘Alu al-Ibrahim, Nuhaydah ‘Abd-al-Qadir Qassas, Ahmad Ibrahim Salim, Mahmud Ahmad Hajj Ahmad, Khalid ‘Abd-al-Latif al-Khadr, Muhammad Turki al-Sayyid, Walid Mustafa Sardini, Muhammad ‘Abd-al-Rahman Anis.

Sector B: other sectors of the people:
Ahmad ‘Abd-al-‘Aziz al-Gharib, Ahmad ‘Ali Riyad Shuhnah, Muhammad ‘Umar ‘Awni Nihad Mushantat, Muhammad Husayn Lattuf, Muhammad Muhammad Hikmat Riyad Na‘san Agha, Muhammad ‘Abd-al-Rahman al-‘Abdallah.

9. Province of Tartus:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
‘Abd-al-Latif Muhammad Mihriz, Nadim ‘Abduh Kanj, ‘Izz-al-Din Husayn Nasir, Muhammad Muhammad ‘Arif Ghassan Tayyarah, ‘Abd-al-Mun‘im ‘Abd-al-Rahman Bayyati, Yahya Sa‘id al-Khaddam.

Sector B: other sectors of the people:
Jamilah Ahmad ‘Ali, Muhammad Khalil Zughaybi, Sulayman Muhammad Khaddur, Najm-al-Din Husayn al-Salih, Nazih Hamdi Bashshur, ‘Ali Husayn Dawud, Muhsin ‘Ali ‘Umran.

10. Province of al-Raqqah:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
‘Abd-al-Fattah Musa al-Jum‘ah, Mustafa Ahmad al-‘Ayid, Muhammad Muhammad Sa‘id Anwar al-Dibs, ‘Abd-al-Razzaq Ahmad al-‘Id.

Sector B: other sectors of the people:
Isma‘il ‘Ubayd al-‘Abd-al-Ghani, Zakariya Muhammad al-Hasan, Najwa Faysal al-‘Ujayli, Muhammad Husayn al-‘Ammash.

11. Province of Dayr al-Zawr:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Zahrah Khalil al-Jasim, Fayyad Sharif Murayr, ‘Abd-al-Jabbar ‘Abd-al-Razzaq al-Mardud, Ahmad Husayn al-Hammad, Ghassan Muhammad Nafi‘ al-‘Abd-al-Rajab, Najm ‘Abdallah al-‘Abdallah, Jasim Muhammad al-As‘ad, ‘Abd-al-‘Aziz Dawud al-Hammadah.

Sector B: other sectors of the people:
Nawwaf Raghib al-Bashir, Zyhayr ‘Abd-al-Fattah al-Hamdi, Ahmad al-Hajj ‘Abd-al-Wahhab al-Fayyad, Riyad ‘Uthman al-‘Abdallah, Khalil ‘Abbud al-Hithil, Hamad ‘Abdallah Shaykh al-Jilat.

12. Province of al-Hasakah:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Mahmud Ahmad al-Fadil, Hamad Madhi al-Sahyan, Ahmad ‘Allu al-‘Abdallah, Ibrahim ‘Abd-al-Hamid ‘Abdallah, Mahmud Ahmad al-Husayn, Mahmud Muhammad Dawud, Fu‘ad Rashad ‘Aliku, Mahmud Shawwakh al-Bursan.

Sector B: other sectors of the people:
Ilyas Najm ‘Abdalki, Samirah Ilyas Jibra‘il, Muhammad Hammadi Haytham Duwayhi, Kamal Ahmad Darwish, ‘Abd-al-Hamid Sulayman Hajj-Musa, Bashir Ishaq Sa‘dah.

13. Province of Dar‘a:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:

Mahmud 'Abd-al-Qadir al-Zu'bi, Najah Muhammad Mahamid, Dhib 'Abd-al-Karim al-Hariri, 'Udah Jiryis Qassis, Yusuf Muhammad Abu-Rumiyah al-Sa'di.

Sector B: other sectors of the people:
'Abd-al-Fattah Ibrahim al-Ibrahim, 'Abd-al-Fattah Sa'id al-Labbad, Muhammad Mahmud 'Ukaz, Ghassan Yusuf Aba-Zayd, Shafiq Husayn al-Hariri.

14. Province of al-Suwayda':

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Muhanna Mahmud al-Tawil, Mu'ayad Hasan Subuh, Salam 'Abduh al-Yasin, 'Abdallah 'Abd-al-Ghaffar al-Atrash.

Sector B: other sectors of the people:
Kamil Hayil 'Amir, Hasan Sulayman Jarbu'.

15. Province of al-Qunaytirah:

Sector A: The workers and peasants sector:
Abd-al-Majid Ahmad al-Fa'uri, Shakib Yusuf Abu-Jabal, Radwan Muhammad al-Tahhan.

Sector B: other sectors of the people:
Muhsin Husayn 'Ali, 'Arif Tahir Hajj-Yusuf.

Article 2: The Assembly is called upon to convene for the first time on the 0th of the sixth month 1990.

Article 3: This decree will be published and those needed to implement it will be informed accordingly.

Damascus, the seventh of the 11th month 1410 hegira corresponding to 31st of the fifth month 1990 a.d.

President of the Republic Hafiz al-Asad.

Afghanistan

Najibullah Meets With Hajj Pilgrims 7 Jun

LD0806064390 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0455 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] Kabul, June 7, BAKHTAR: Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, met today with hajj pilgrims.

Touching on the facilities provided by the State of the Republic of Afghanistan for Hajj pilgrims, President Najibullah said that we had proposed to the opposition heads two years ago to come together in the house of God and to start dialogue with us in ending fratricidal war. However, in view of their bellicose characteristics they did not admit our proposals and even intensified their fratricidal war.

President Najibullah added that since we are acting in accordance with the religion of Islam with the help of Almighty God we have defended independently the independence, territorial integrity and national sovereignty of our country and have delivered the country from disintegration and fragmentation. Understanding the futility of war, a number of opposition field commanders have given up war and negotiation is underway with some of them. President Najibullah asked the pilgrims to haj to convey his greetings to convey his greetings to other Afghans who go there from other countries telling them that the ground is paved for their return and their houses, lands and gardens are awaiting them. Later, several participants on behalf of their colleagues thanked the State of the Republic of Afghanistan for the facilities provided to them and pledged that when they reach to the house of God they must pray for the restoration of peace in the country as well as urging displaced Afghans to return to their homeland and to contribute in the process of peace.

Regime Units Destroy 'Extremists' in Kabul Areas

LD1106102590 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Text] Yesterday and today the units and companies of the Armed Forces in Kabul garrison carried out a series of mopping up and combat operations in the areas around Kabul Province.

According to a report by BAKHTAR's military section, during these operations 32 extremists were put out of action and a rocket system together with 80 surface-to-surface missiles were destroyed. Also, two arms and ammunition convoys including 68 vehicles belonging to the enemy were set ablaze and destroyed as a result of attacks by aircraft in the region of Do Bandi, Lowgar Province, and in (Genda), Vardak.

Six Wounded in Missile Attack on Kabul

LD1106170790 Kabul Domestic Service in Dari 1600 GMT 11 Jun 90

[Text] As a result of the impact of 11 surface-to-surface missiles launched by the extremists, six Kabul citizens, including women and children, were wounded today. BAKHTAR's military section reports that the wounded were transfered to hospital and are under close medical treatment. There have been material losses as well.

Seven Injured in Kabul Attack; 46 Rebels 'Crushed'

LD1206165790 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] Today extremist elements fired 14 ground-to-ground rockets on the residential areas of Kabul. As a result of the landing of the rockets seven of our compatriots have been injured. The rockets fired from the direction of west Kabul landed in wards two, four, five and eleven of the city of Kabul. They have caused material damage as well.

A source of the Kabul garrison general command told the military section of the BIA [BAKHTAR IFORMATION AGENCY]: Armed Forces units and contingents in the command mounted today clearing up and combat operations in the Paghman area to prevent the terrorist acts of the extremists. As a result of the operation 46 extremists including three Wahabi mercenaries were curshed. As many as 320 SAKR-20 ground-to-ground rockets, 300 other missiles 600 artillery shells, 600 mortar shells 400 rocket launcher shells [as heard], 200 hand grenades, six boxes of machine gun ammunition, four boxes of heavy machine gun ammunition, 30 boxes of DShK [machine gun] ammunition, two depots of garments, and one medicine depot have been captured. As many as seven depots of ammunition and foodstuffs have been destroyed.

The report adds that seven enemy arms and ammunition supply convoys—consisting of 42 motor vehicles—have been destroyed as a result of Air Force raids in Jairez and Kota-e Ashro areas in Wardak Province.

Gulbuddin Group 'Ringleader' Reported Killed

LD1206172190 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1630 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] The military section of the BIA [BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY] reported that Dur Muhammad, nicknamed Khateb, a ringleader of Gulbuddin group, has recently been crushed along with a number of his group members as a result of an ambush by the security forces in the surroundings of Chaparhar district, Nangarhar Province.

India

Afghan Minister Attends Cooperation Meeting

LD1206205490 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] The ninth session of the joint commission for economic and technical cooperation between the Republic of Afganistan and the Republic of India started officially its work this morning in an atmosphere of full understanding and warmth at the headquarters of the Ministry of External Affairs of the Republic of India under the chairmanship of 'Abdul Wakil, the minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Afgahnistan, and Inder Kumar Gujral, the minister of external affairs of the Republic of India. Deputy ministers of the Ministry of Planning and Public Health, the director of the first directorate of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ahmad Saraw, ambassador and representative extraordinary of the Republic of Afghanistan in India, and the head of the planning department of the Ministry of Light Industry and Food were present from the Afghan side; Harikishore Singh, minister of state in external affairs, (Nariswar Dayal Jani), joint secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs, and Muhammad Hamid al-Ansari, India's ambassador in Kabul, were present from the Indian side at the meeting of the commission.

At the beginning of the ninth session of the joint commission for economic and technical cooperation between India and Afghanistan, Inder Kumar Gujral spoke about the importance of the expansion of relations between the Republic of Afghanistan and the Republic of India, and emphasized the readiness of his country for offering all-out aid to the Republic of Afghanistan in various fields. Inder Kumar Gujral added that India, as always, supports the drive and the attitude of the Republic of Afghanistan, under the leadership of esteemed Najibullah, president of Afganistan, for ensuring peace, and considers the role of esteemed Najibullah in this respect fully positive.

'Abdul Wakil, minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan, speaking about Afghan-Indian friendship in various fields, expressed gratitude for the India's aid to the Republic of Afghanistan, especially under the current circumstances of the country, for the reconstruction of Afghanistan. The minister of foreign affairs expressed hope that the relation of the two countries will further strengthen in compliance with the national interests of the people of the two countries and peace and security in the region and in the world, in the light of the successful work of the ninth session of the joint commission for economic and technical cooperation between Afghanistan and India and the full implementation of the concluded resolutions. 'Abdul Wakil informed the Indian side of the currrent developments of the country for the implementation of the national reconciliation policy, the decisions of the recent Loya Jirga of the people of Afghanistan, and the continuous efforts of the Republic of Afghanistan to solve problems through political and peaceful means, and expressed gratitude for the support of the Republic of India on the position of the Republic of Afghanistan for ensuring peace and security in the country, the cessation of foreign interference, and the full observance of the Geneva agreements.

According to another report, 'Abdul Wakil, minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan, had a private meeting this morning with Inder Kumar Gujral, minister of external affairs of India, in the office of the latter, and exchanged views on developments in the region and international issues.

According to yet another report, 'Abdul Wakil and the accompanying delegation were received yesterday on their arrival at the Indira Gandhi Airport by Inder Kumar Gujral, minister of external affairs of India, [words indistinct] foreign secretary and some senior officials of the Ministry of External Affairs, Ahmad Sarwar, ambassador and representative extraordinary of the Republic of India in Delhi, and members of the Afghan embassy in Delhi.

The minister of foreign affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan, in an interview at the airport, said: I consider my participation in the ninth session of the Afghan-Indian joint commission for economic and technical cooperation another step for the further expansion of Afghan-Indian friendly relations. The Republic of Afghanistan has a completely clear view about India. The Republic of Afganistan condemns the interference of Pakistan in the internal affairs of India, and cannot remain indifferent toward it.

Inder Kumar Gujral, in response to a question, said: I am happy to receive my friend 'Abdul Wakil, minister of foreign affairs of Afghanistan. In the course of the Afghan-Indian joint commission for economic and technical cooperation session, which is a symbol of the expansion of Afghan-Indian cooperation, we will talk and echange views about the expansion of relations between the two countries.

Comments on 'Fresh Initiative'

BK1306161390 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Afghanistan has proposed a fresh international conference to resolve the Afghan tangle, with India playing a major role in it. The Afghan foreign minister, Mr. 'Abdul Wakil, has said that the Geneva accord on the Afghan issue is dead because of Pakistan's continued violation of the agreement. There is a need for a fresh initiative and India has a significant role to play because of its contacts with all concerned, including the Afghan opposition, he said. Mr. 'Abdul Wakil was addressing a press conference in New Delhi this evening at the end of the two-day session of the Indo-Afghan joint commission.

Mr. Wakil said that there is a possibility of an open dialogue between the Najib government and various opposition groups for resolving the Afghan problem. His government had already established contacts with the opposition groups, and its aim is to ensure peace. However, he did not disclose where and when such a meeting took place.

Mr. 'Abdul Wakil also disclosed that President Najib will visit New Delhi following an invitation from the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, whom he met today.

Replying to questions, Mr. Wakil said that Kabul wants to join SAARC [South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation] and the Islamic Conference Organization, but regretted that Pakistan has been hostile to this. Mr. Wakil said that both India and Afghanistan are aware that Pakistan is interfering in the internal affairs of the neighboring countries, creating instability in the region.

Earlier, the visiting foreign minister, Mr. 'Abdul Wakil, and the external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, signed a protocol for a major expansion in bilateral ties, taking the relations between the two countries to a new high.

PRC Minister Wants Increased Iron Ore Imports

BK0806064990 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] The Chinese minister for metallurgy, Mr. Qi Yuanjing, currently on a visit to the country, has expressed his desire to increase the import of iron ore. Mr. Yuanjing, who is leading a Chinese delegation, today called on the steel and mines minister, Mr. Dinesh Goswami, in New Delhi. They discussed matters of mutual interest, particularly in the field of steel industry.

The Chinese delegation will be visiting various places to see industries and other activities connected with the steel sector.

Meets V.P. Singh

BK1306150490 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] The visiting Chinese metallurgy minister, Mr. Qi Yuanjing, called on the prime minister, Mr. V.P. Singh, in New Delhi today. He conveyed greetings from the Chinese premier, Mr. Li Peng, to Mr. Singh. The two leaders discussed matters relating to cooperation in the fields of metallurgy, trade and technology. Mr. Qi Yuanjing said that he was impressed with the progress made by India in these fields. The Afghan foreign minister, Mr. 'Abdul Wakil, also called on the prime minister in New Delhi today.

Soviet Special Envoy Briefs Gujral on Summit

BK0806151990 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] A special Soviet envoy, Mr. Kozyrev, today called on the external affairs minister, Mr. I.K. Gujral, in New Delhi. He briefed Mr. Gujral on the outcome of the summit between President George Bush and Soviet President Mr. Gorbachev. Mr. Gujral appreciated the Soviet gesture in sending a special envoy to New Delhi to brief about the U.S.-Soviet summit.

Paper on Australian Mirage Sale to Pakistan

BK0906111590 Delhi PATRIOT in English 27 May 90 p 1

[By Cecil Victor]

[Text] The proposed sale of Mirage aircraft by Australia to Pakistan has drawn attention to the pernicious dimension of Canberra's involvement in subcontinental and Indian Ocean security issues.

For India, the possibility of transfer of 50 Mirage aircraft with new engines and spares to boost Pakistan's "strategic depth" in warfare capability has tended to obfuscate the possibility of Australians undermining the security of India's futuristic naval base at Karwar.

If the sale to South Africa by the West German shipyard HDW [Howaldtswerke-Deutsche Werft A.G.] of blueprints of the submarine made specifically for the Indian Navy is considered to be an unacceptable breach of security then what of the possibility of Australians giving data of underwater approach conditions to the Karwar naval base to Pakistan or any other inimical neighbour?

An Australian firm Sinclair Knight and Partner has been employed as consultants in collaboration with a Dutch concern to handle the underwater blasting at Karwar. The contract includes the supply of machines, explosives and divers.

"Project Sea Bird" was started at Karwar in 1985 and for the first phase Rs 350 crore had been sanctioned. The Naval base is designed to dominate the mid-Arabian Sea across which the sea lanes to the Suez Canal, the Gulf, the Cape of Good Hope (South Africa) and the US naval and air base at Diego Garcia (in the middle of the Indian Ocean) traverse. It lies approximately midway between Bombay (for which it will serve as a strategic reserve) and Cochin (home port of the Southern Naval Command).

It may be recalled that the Pakistani submarine PNS Ghazi sank while trying to lay mines at the approaches to the submarine base at Vishakhapatam in 1971 [Bangladesh war]. The failure of its mission—daring by any standard—is partly related to the absence of accurate data on undersea conditions, outside the harbour.

The Australian Government's insensitivity to Indian concerns over arms sales to Pakistan is very likely to be shared by the laissez faire attitude of free-market Australians involved in the construction of the Karwar base. It is a possibility that the Government of India cannot leave to chance and Australian goodwill.

Australian involvement in Indian Ocean geopolitics is growing, and it is significant that regional fears about growing Indian naval strength should be stoked through seminars in Australia.

Quite apart from the visible signs of extension of Australian military expansion across the Indian Ocean like the creation of a two-ocean (Pacific and Indian Ocean) navy, expansion of naval facilities on the Indian seaboard and long-range maritime reconnaissance Australia is building up its intelligence gathering capabilities within the countries of the region.

These are meant to complement the US and other Western intelligence systems. India, therefore, cannot afford to take the supply of Mirage aircraft to Pakistan lightly.

Satellite Successfully Launched 12 June

BK1206085890 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] The INSAT-1D satellite was successfully launched into space today aboard a U.S. Delta launch rocket from the Kennedy Space Center in Cape Canaveral. The unmanned rocket thundered skyward with the moon in the background at 1122 Indian Standard Time [0552 GMT] as scheduled. Earlier reports from Florida say that the satellite was to separate from the rocket about an hour later and settle in a temporary orbit 210 km high.

The launch of the INSAT-1D today comes at a crucial juncture of the space program when the country urgently needs a satellite to replace the aging INSAT-1B. The fourth and the last of the American-built INSAT satellites—INSAT-1D—is intended to take over from INSAT-1B, the only satellite working among the three put into orbit so far. The satellite will be monitored and controlled from the INSAT Master Control Facility at Hassan, about 200 km from Bangalore. It will take about two days to position INSAT-1D at 83 degrees east longitude over the equator and one more month to check up the on-board systems before it becomes completely operational.

'Pakistani-Trained Terrorist' Killed in Kashmir

BK1006162690 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Text] In the Kashmir Valley, one Pakistani-trained terrorist was killed while attempting to infiltrate into the Indian territory from the Pakistan-occupied Kashmir area. The security forces recovered two AK-47 rifles, 32 hand grenades, 27 mines, and a sizable quantity of ammunition from him.

In Srinagar City, two unidentified decomposed bodies were recovered from the Jhelum River. Terrorists attacked the security forces at two places in the city, injuring two jawans [soldiers]. No other incident was reported from any part of the Kashmir Valley.

Seven More 'Terrorists' Killed

BK1306160990 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1530 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] In the Kashmir Valley, seven Pakistan-trained terrorists were killed and 12 arrested in the five-km border belt today. An official spokesman said in Srinagar today that a group of 20 terrorists, who were coming from across the border, were challenged by a party of security forces. The terrorists fired and injured a jawan [soldier]. In the return fire, seven terrorists were killed, 12 were arrested, and one managed to escape. A large quantity of arms and ammunition was recovered from the terrorists. It included five AK-47 rifles, three pistols, 16 hand grenades, and a sizable quantity of different weapons.

Meanwhile, the situation in the valley remained by and large peaceful. There was no relaxation in curfew in the old city areas.

Iran

Iraqi Agreement to Perez de Cuellar Visit Noted

LD1306214390 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 2030 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] The UN secretary general has told the Iranian [UN] envoy that Iraq has announced its agreement to Perez de Cuellar's visit to the region.

According to the report of the Islamic Republic News Agency from the United Nations, Mr. Kamal Kharrazi, Iran's permanent envoy at the United Nations met with Perez de Cuellar at the UN Headquarters on Wednesday [13 June].

In that meeting, Perez de Cuellar referred to Iraq's agreement to his visit to the region and said preliminary studies have begun for the visit. He added that he is prepared to visit the region personally if the visit speeds up and facilitates the implementation of [UN] Resolution 598. He stressed that for the visit to take place, the possibility of preliminary trips should not be ruled out.

It is possible that before Perez de Cuellar's visit, for which no time has been specified yet, his assistants may visit the region to prepare the grounds for the visit.

The Islamic Republic of Iran's president had called on Perez de Cuellar a while ago to visit the region to speed up the implementation of Resolution 598.

Velayati Receives Afghans, Soviet Envoy

LD1306193990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] The heads of Afghanistan's Islamic Unity Party [Hezb-e Vahdat-e Eslami-ye Afghanistan] and the leaders of the independent struggling forces of that country had a joint meeting with Mr. Velayati, our country's foreign minister, this morning.

In that meeting, Mr. Velayati expressed pleasure at the holding of a joint meeting between the heads of the Islamic Unity Party and the independent struggling parties stationed in Peshawar said: With regard to the special conditions in Afghanistan, it is necessary for the Afghan strugglers to show the required political activity in the world arena so as to be able to play the same positive role in the political arena as they play in the military.

Mr. Velayati added: With regard to its responsibility toward world Muslims, the Islamic Republic of Iran recognizes itself duty bound to support them and is hopeful that all Muslim people of Afghanistan will be able to gain their rightful claims through close cooperation between the mojahedin who are resident in Iran and Pakistan.

Expressing their gratitude for the rightful stance of the Islamic Republic of Iran vis-a-vis Afghanistan's problem the leaders of the Afghan independent struggling forces announced that the Islamic Republic of Iran is the only true supporter of the world oppressed and the meek nation of Afghanistan. They requested that the Islamic Republic of Iran continue its efforts toward solving the Afghan problem.

The same report mentions that Mr. Alekseyev, the Soviet leader's special envoy, who is visiting Tehran to submit a report on the recent meeting between the heads of the U.S. and Soviet governments to the officials of our country, met and conferred with Mr. Velayati, our country's foreign minister this evening.

The Soviet special envoy submitted the message of his country's leader and also gave a conclusive report on the outcome of recent discussions held between Gorbachev and Bush on world and regional issues.

In that meeting our country's foreign minister expressed thanks for the message of the Soviet Leader and announced: Today the world has entered a changing and decisive phase in its political life and such conditions call for better awareness and intelligence. Our country's foreign minister stressed that the Islamic Republic of Iran supports the rights of nations and will welcome any action toward their interests.

Destroyers Conclude 3-Day Visit to Oman

LD1306120790 Tehran IRNA in English 1055 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Tehran, June 13, IRNA—Two Iranian destroyers ended their 3-day official visit to Oman and left Qabus port for Bandar 'Abbas in Hormuzgan Province Wednesday morning.

The visit by the two destroyers 'Alborz' and 'Bayandor' took place in the framework of friendly ties between the two countries. It was the first since the culmination of the Islamic revolution in 1979.

During their visit, Commander of Iran's Naval Forces College Rear-Admiral Mohsen Sayyar and commanders of the destroyers met with Muscat governor general, head of the Omani chief of staff, navy commander and Omani State Minister for Foreign Affairs, Yusuf Bin-al-Alawi Bin-'Abdallah. The two sides emphasised bilateral friendly ties and expressed interest in expansion of Tehran-Muscat military relations and exchange of expertise.

The destroyers left Iranian ports of Bandar 'Abbas and Bushehr last Friday [8 June] afternoon and arrived in Muscat on Sunday [10 June].

Hashemi-Rafsanjani Meets Indonesian Minister

LD1306122690 Tehran IRNA in English 1050 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Tehran, June 13, IRNA—The visiting Indonesian Trade Minister Arifin Siregar Wednesday [13 June] called for closer cooperation of his country with the Islamic Republic of Iran which he said played an outstanding role in the leadership of the Islamic world. In a meeting with President Akbar Hashemi-Rafsanjani, the Indonesian minister said that his country which has the largest Muslim population, looked for broader political and economic ties with Iran.

President Hashemi-Rafsanjani said that based on its constitution, Iran gave priority to Islamic countries in its foreign relations. Therefore, he added, in the light of Indonesia's potentials, Iran is willing to expand relations with that country in all fields.

The Indonesian minister who arrived here Sunday [10 June] heading a ranking delegation, met with Heavy Industries Minister Mohammad Hadi Nejad-Hoseyniyan Tuesday [12 June]. The two sides discussed commercial and industrial cooperation and agreed on the dispatch of experts to each country to explore possibilities for industrial cooperation.

Deputy Oil Minister on Gas Network Projects

LD1006081290 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 9 Jun 90

[Text] Since the beginning of the current year [21 March 1990-20 March 1991] contracts for implementation of 31 gas projects worth 80 billion rials have been signed with contractors in order to utilize the available capacity of the country's gas refineries and to expand the gas network. The deputy oil minister and managing director of the National Iranian Gas Company [no name as heard] has made remarks on that to which I draw your attention:

[Begin deputy oil minister recording] It is worth mentioning that the second phase of the Kangan refinery was commissioned on 6 June. Apart from that, since the beginning of the year we have signed around 31 main prjects worth 80 billion rials and $85 million with local contractors. Some have begun their work. From those 31 projects, 11 are new and 20 are completing the gas company's previous projects. Around $500 million of goods have been bought for those 31 projects, which will be provided to the contractors. On our performance regarding the gas network and the urban gas supplies, it is worth mentioning that we have laid around 250 kilometers of pipelines in the town where we work [as heard], and more than 15,000 service lines have been installed.

Within the framework of the 31 projects already mentioned, the most important are the Hamadan-Sanandaj pipeline, the first and second phases of the trunk pipeline from Esfahan to Delijan, and the Arab-Tabriz and Kasuj-Orumiyeh pipelines. Those are the main pipelines, work on which has already begun. We also hope to be able to commission the gas networks in Shush, Dezful and Shahrud within the next one or two months so that people can use those God-given riches.

Apart from the mentioned projects, we are implementing other projects. The fourth phase of the Khangiran network will become ready for contract within the next one or two months, God willing. Also, Sarkhun refinery work is in hand, and its contract will become finalized within the next one of two months. [end recording]

Majles Further Debates Security Forces Merger

LD1306113990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] In this morning's open session of the Islamic Consultative Assembly [Najlis], which was chaired by Mr. Karrubi, after the swearing in of Majles' new presidium, work continued on reviewing the single-urgency bill on merger of gendarmerie, Committee [Islamic Revolution Committee, IRC], and police, and the formation of a singular security force. A few more clauses of that bill were subsequently ratified.

According to Clause 3 of that bill, the aim of formation of Organization of Security Guards of Islamic Republic of Iran is the establishing of calm and security and the provision of public and personal well-being, as well as safeguarding the achievements of Islamic Revolution within the borders of Islamic Republic of Iran.

According to today's ratifications made by the Majles, some of the duties of Organization of Security Guards include resolute and sustained confronation against any act of sabotage, terrorism, rebellion, and instigating acts against the Islamic Republic aimed at disturbing the country's security. These will be carried out through cooperation with the Information Ministry. The method of such cooperaiton will be determined by the Supreme Council of National Security.

Velayati Receives Group of Lebanese 'Ulema

LD1206124690 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] A congregational delegation of Lebanese Muslim 'ulema met with Minister of Foreign Affairs Velayati this morning. The meeting began with Sheykh (Ahmad al-Zain), the religious judge of Sidon, expressing his condolences on the anniversary of the death of His Eminence Imam Khomeyni, may God's blessing be upon him, the founder of the Islamic Republic of Iran. The judge remarked on the latest Zionist conspiracy in connection with the migration of Soviet Jews to the occupied Palestinian territory. He said: This is one of the biggest conspiracies hatched by the Zionist enemy against the Islamic ummah, and all Muslims in the world are duty bound to employ their entire resources against this evil and malicious action.

Mr. Velayati then referred to the various conspiracies hatched by global arrogance against the Islamic awakening in the world, and with the aid of the guidelines issued by the vali-e amr [guardian of the cause] of the Muslims, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, as well as the support of the Islamic crusaders in Lebanon, Palestine, and the rest of the Islamic world, the conspiracies of the enemies of Islam will be thwarted and backfire on them.

Our country's minister of foreign affairs reiterated that the Islamic Republic of Iran will employ its entire resources toward continuing the sacred defense against the regime occupying Jerusalem until the liberation of that honored place and will be at the disposal of all the Muslims and the deprived, especially the Muslim brothers in Lebanon and Palestine. He said: Today, the establishment of a united force among all Muslims in the Islamic world has foiled all enemy plots, and we hope to see the victory of Islam over world blasphemy.

RSFSR Minister Discusses Mutual Interests

LD0806010190 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] Mr. Vinogradov, the foreign minister of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR], who is in Iran participating in ceremonies marking the anniversazry of Imam Khomeyni's death, met the European and American affairs under-secretary of our country's Foreign Ministry today.

During the meeting the two sides discussed expanding relations between Iran and the USSR. In particular they discussed establishing economic and commercial ties between RSFSR and our country's northern provinces.

Yazdi Chairs Consultative Judiciary Session

LD1006224990 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1630 GMT 10 Jun 90

[Excerpt] The consultative session of the Judicial branch, chaired by Mr. Yazdi, was held today and was attended by high-ranking officials of the branch. In this sessions in which Mr. Shushtari, minister of justice, was also present, the head of the judical branch, while praising the participation of millions of our country's people and Muslims from other countries in the ceremonies marking the first anniversary of the demise of Imam Khomeyni—may God accept his soul in paradise—said: The repeated presence of the people in the arena manifests the stability of the system of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Pointing to the immunity limitations of Majles deputies, Mr. Yazdi emphasizes: In the case of a deputy committing an offense, that deputy will be treated and persecuted in the same manner as other offenders.

It was also announced in this session that the heads of all the country's judicial courts are duty bound to hold open court sessions except in cases which—according to the Constitution—undermine the moral values and public order of society, or if the parties to the dispute request that the session not be held openly due to the private nature of the dispute. [passage omitted]

Paper Warns Against 'Danger' From Liberals

TA0906113390 Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 20 May 90 pp 1, 9

[Editorial: "The Outsiders!"]

[Excerpts] In the name of God, the Compassionate, the Merciful.

It has been frequently said that the believer does not get bitten twice on the same spot. Logic and wisdom, too, underscore the fact that it is wrong to test the tested. For this reason, it is not logical for us to simply forget bitter past experience about the liberals, who have inflicted irreparable blows to the revolution and country. Any naivete in this regard can inflict new blows to the revolution and country.

If the liberals did not have any black marks against them and if they had not committed any other intentional mistake beside supporting the hypocrites [Mojahedin-e Khalq Organization] in those difficult and convulsive circumstances, this one instance alone would have sufficed to prove their political incompetence to flex their muscles in the country's political arena and to have them expelled by the nation from all the country's effective decisionmaking centers. This is a great sin that must not be underestimated or consigned to oblivion. [passage omitted]

In the imam's view, the damage of the liberals and of Bazargan's dangerous clique is greater than the damage of the "hypocrites, these dear children of Engineer Bazargan." The reason is obvious. The hypocrites entered the arena with a wicked nature and operated like a "plague." They attacked everything cowardly in order to destroy it. The combatant nation, however, feeling a sense of duty, separated them from its rank and uprooted them in such a manner that even today America and other supporters of the hypocrites in France, Britain, and other places are in mourning.

The liberals, however, entered the arena in the name of concern for Islam, the revolution, and country and under an Islamic and revolutionary mask. Their main objective, which later became a mission, was to discourage the nation and disperse the revolution's militant followers from around the imam.

Although the hypocrites committed endless treason, they very soon showed their real nature and were recognized by the nation. The liberals, however, through cunning or by displaying concern for the country, revolution, and nation, played a more secretive role. Even experts could not easily recognize their true nature. Despite this, the nation and the system's authorities, and foremost of all the dear imam, recognized the true nature of this band, which is more dangerous than the hypocrites, through the development of events and reached a definite conclusion in this regard. [passage omitted]

At one time the imam said that "the hypocrites are worse than the infidels." Another time, he considered the liberals and Bazargan's clique as more dangerous and their damage greater than that of the hypocrites. A comparison of these two points makes us reach the clear conclusion that in the imam's view they are under no circumstances "trustworthy." They are even more outsiders to the revolution and country than the infidels and hypocrites, because their danger in all circumstances is not as tangible to everyone as the danger of the infidels and the hypocrites. This danger can only be felt when it has inflicted its blow and carried out its mission. [passage omitted]

ABRAR Reports Current Year's Budget Details

LD0706140790 Tehran IRNA in English 1019 GMT 7 Jun 90

[Text] Tehran, June 7, IRNA—Iran's total foreign exchange revenues from oil and non-oil products is expected to reach to $17.8 billion this year, the Persian daily 'ABRAR' reported Thursday [7 June].

The budget bill of the calendar year 1369 (March 22, 1990-March 21, 1991) sets the target for the government's foreign exchange income at $15.435 billion. The following is the breakdown of the revenue sources in the bill:
Crude oil, natural gas and oil derivatives $14.387 [figure as received],
Capital accounts receipts $387 million,
Export of services $430 million.

The total revenues from the non-oil exports in 1369 will amount to $2.384 billion, the paper said adding that they are to come from the following sources:
Export of agricultural products $552 million,
Export of industrial products $1.028 billion,
Export of hand woven carpets $588 million,
Mineral exports $206 million,
Pharmaceuticals exports $10 million.

Foreign exchange expenditures provisioned in the bill, to be spent in the form of capital expenditure and non-capital expenditure in 32 areas to meet their basic needs, are as follows:
$4 billion plus in industry,
$3.972 million in commerce, purchase of commodities and tradeactivities,
$2.443 million for expansion of oil activities and boosting oil products and oil derivatives,
$749 million in road and transportation,
One billion rials ($14 million) in agriculture and natural resources development,

$1.75 [figure as received] in defence affairs,
$500 million in electricity production,
$311 million in post and telecommunications,
$420 million in expansion of natural gas network,
$85 [figure as received] in atomic energy,
$433 million in medicine, health care,
132 million rials ($1.84 million) in higher education,
$166 million in mining industry,
$190 million in water resources.

Meanwhile sums are allocated for research, reconstruction, physical education, meteorology, education and vocational training, urban development, services, etc., ABRAR said.

Agriculture Deputy Minister, Others Express Views

PM1206103390 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 15 May 90 p 5

[Interview with Deputy Minister of Construction Jihad Engineer Rabi' Fallah and Ministry "Senior Planning and Programming Expert" Engr. Seyfikaran by unnamed RESALAT economic correspondent; date, place of interview not given]

[Text] As the dear readers know, under the program to divide duties in the agricultural sector between the appropriate ministries, last week saw the approval of a bill to divide such duties and its submission to the Majles as a matter of priority. On Sunday [13 May], in the first part of this series, you read the views of the head and another member of the special commission formed in the Majles to look into the plan to divide duties with regard to water an agriculture. You also read the views of the deputy minister of agriculture in charge of planning and the deputy head of the agricultural and natural resources research organization. In this issue we see the views of the deputy minister in charge of agriculture and cattle affairs as well as the views of a senior expert in planning at the Ministry of Construction Jihad. It is worth noting that in the plan proposed by the Majles deputies all affairs dealing with matters of cultivation and cattle will be given to the Ministry of Agriculture and all duties to do with water, soil, natural resources and village welfare will be handed to the Ministry of Expansion Jihad—Construction Jihad. In the meantine, the bill proposed by the government calls for duties with regard to water, soil, and cultivation to be given to the Ministry of Agriculture, and the duties dealing with cattle, natural resources, and village welfare to be handed over to the Ministry of Construction Jihad.

According to a bill that has been approved by the cabinet, which is now ready to be handed over to the Majles for final approval, duties dealing with forestry, pasture, fisheries, and cattle affairs—including the cattle organization, the veterinary organization, and the fund for the welfare of pastures and other units under their auspices—as well as village welfare issues are to be the responsibility of the Ministry of Construction Jihad. Responsibility for cultivation, soil, and water will be the Ministry of Agriculture.

Mr. Engr. Rabi' Fallah, deputy minister in charge agriculture and cattle affairs at the Ministry of Construction Jihad, took part in an interview with RESALAT's economic correspondent. He said: The Ministry of Construction Jihad fully agrees with the bill that has been passed by the cabinet and believes that this method is the best way possible for the existence of two strong and unified bodies. the ministers of agriculture and Construction Jihad also approve.

He recalled: One of the important missions of the Islamic Republic with regard to executive duties is the designation of duties and avoidance of meddling in the country's official organizations. At the same time, one must keep in mind that there should be a place for Islamic revolutionary organizations alongside the ministries that existed before the revolution in order to further the views and guidelines set forth by the Imam—may God's blessing be upon him. From 1981 discussions started on the nature of the activities performed by the Ministry of Construction Jihad and their similarity with tasks performed by other ministries.

He added: In 1987 there was a division of duties between the Construction Jihad and the Ministry of Agriculture. Because of a tangential approach to the issue not all duties and responsibilities were clear and there was a great lack of coordination in planning and execution. This resulted in the preparation of the bill to close the Ministry of Agriculture and merge it into the Construction Jihad. In reality this was a discussion on the unity of agricultural activity. This bill was opposed by the Ministry of Agriculture and did not gain enough votes in the Majles.

Engr. Fallah added: From 1987 until now an in-depth study into dividing the duties of the agricultural sector was conducted by the country's organization of personnel and executive affairs, agricultural commissions, islamic revolutionary organizations, the plan and budget organization, and the Construction Jihad. It was finally decided that the duties within the agricultural sector should be divided into two subdivisions. This would have the least disruption, and there would be room for independent policymaking and action in each organization. This resulted in the current bill. The existence of two ministries for agriculture was seen to be the best possible way to divide the duties and it was approved by both ministers of agriculture and Construction Jihad as well as the cabinet.

The deputy minister in charge of agriculture and cattle at the Ministry of Construction Jihad said: We believe that the bill presented by the government guarantees the realization of the programs set forth in the Five-Year Plan for economic, cultural, and social expansion. It will prevent the uncoordinated activity, duplicated work, and instability which have so far existed in the execution of programs. Keeping in mind that we are in the first year of the Five-Year Plan for expansion, the clarification of this issue should be considered as serious.

He added: We should keep in mind that 40 percent of the feed needed by cattle comes from natural resources, 39 percent comes from industrial and agricultural waste, 17 percent comes from cultivated fodder, and about 4 percent is imported. In addition, throughout the world the restoration of natural resources is done by the organization that is responsible for the work. The division of duties of the Ministries of Agriculture and Construcion Jihad, as laid out in the plan, is vital. On the other hand with the existence of the level of feed from natural resources and their expansion in the future—especially the Five-Year Plan, which puts 17 percent of fodder production in the cultivation sector—the ministry in charge of agricultural policy has no involvement at all in the 39 percent of animal waste and agricultural waste or imports. One must also keep in mind that a considerable portion of professional cattle ranchers have permission and specified land for the growth of fodder, while at the same time the policy of the agricultural sector in providing fodder is less than 17 percent, so approval of this bill is vital.

Engr. Fallah stressed: The basic principle of dividing duties is definitely approved by the ministries of Agriculture and Construction Jihad. But at the same time there are differences of opinion in both ministries with regard to designating duties. The final decision will be made by the Majles.

He stressed: It is guaranteed 100 percent that the Five-Year Plan will be realized if this bill is passed by the Majles. If the current trend continues, a lot of damage, which has been tangible since 1986, will be done to the expansion program.

Engr. Fallah, the deputy minister in charge of agriculture and cattle at the Ministry of Reconstruction Jihad, said: Because of coordination between the cattle department at the Ministry of Agriculture and the appropriate deputy at the Ministry of Construction Jihad, more has been accomplished in the last one or two years than in previous years. With regard to the capability of experts at the Ministry of Construction Jihad, a team of high-level officials from the FAO visited the Crusade's research center recently and considered it to be unique in the Middle East.

In this connection one can cite the unique activities of this ministry, especially with regard to improved breeds of cattle, sheep, goats, and native poultry, identifying different types of honey-bees, cultivating queen bees, teaching cattle keeping to villagers, cattle hygiene in tribal areas of Eastern Azerbaijan, Western Azerbaijan, Ilam, and Lorestan, and fighting parasitic diseases by joint teams from the Construction Jihad and the veterinary organization. The Construction Jihad has amended the method of milking cows, increasing milk production from 800 kg to 3,000 kg per year. By implementing preventive methods to combat parasitic diseases in the tribal areas, there was an increase of 10,000 tons of meat production.

He continued describing the capability of the Ministry of Construction Jihad's experts: We claim that we are capable of handling all responsibility for agriculture. At present there are 3,500 students with scholarships from the Construction Jihad learning about natural resources and village welfare in various universities and places of higher education. In addition to these, there are more than 100 people on doctorate courses and specialized courses in the best universities abroad. In the near future they will join the activities of the Construction Jihad. It is our belief that the knowledge and the capability of the Construction Jihad is at a level where it can claim to be able to carry out all agricultural affairs.

He then answered a question on comparing the bill passed by the cabinet with the plan put forward by Majles deputies and was asked which one was approved by the Construction Jihad. He said: One must keep in mind that respected President Hojjat ol-Eslam val-Moslemin Hashemi-Rafsanjani agrees with the bill. In fact the bill was approved on his recommendation, so the Construction Jihad will support the bill. In addition to this, the plan submitted by the deputies has a lot of problems. For example, the restoration of natural resources in our country is assigned to the group responsible for cattle. Unfortunately, there is no provision in the Majles plan. Some 63 percent of cattle graze on pasture, so there is daily and close contact between the rancher and the pasture. So, the organization that is responsible for the restoration and use of natural resources must have very close contact with the people who use the resources. This plan reduces the Ministry of Energy to a Ministry of Electricity.

Engr. Rabi' Fallah stressed: Everything must be utilized to expand the villages. Keeping in mind the fact that cattle make up for 43 percent of gross agricultural production, the Construction Jihad is ready, as before, to remain active in the expansion of villages.

The deputy minister in charge of agriculture and cattle at the Ministry of Construction Jihad said: One of the principal slogans of the Islamic revolution is independence. This is not possible without economic independence. Unfortunately whenever there is talk of giving responsibility to revolutionary organizations which have sprung up from within the masses of the people and their slogans, it faces strong opposition from some people. A quick look at the years between 1977 and 1989 shows that agricultural growth was 2.6 percent in this period while population growth was 3.8 percent. This means that the growth in agricultural activity has not been enough to meet the demands of the population growth. Unfortunately, agricultural imports have increased sharply.

Imports of wheat rose from about 1.6 million tons in 1977 to 5 million tons in 1989, of rice from 177,000 tons to 716,000 tons, of red meat from 182,000 tons to

202,000 tons, and of fodder from 993,000 tons to more than 1.8 million tons. This shows that the current trend is by no means acceptable. The Construction Jihad, despite the fact that it has not had any responsibility, has been successful in terms of power, programs, and policy.

He added: From the start of the Construction Jihad's activities until now there has been an incrase of 2 million tons in production of wheat using the nonirrigated, farming method, and from the time that it has taken over responsibility as the Ministry of Construction Jihad, there has been an increase of 220,000 tons of corn and more than 1.2 million tons of fodder.

Engr. Fallah stressed: Safeguarding, restoring, and utilizing our natural resources are three basic issues, each of which depend on another factor which the management of natural resources must have in their hands in order to be able to carry out their policies. One of the most important factors is the management of affairs to do with cattle. If these two subdivisions do not get coordinated under the same management umbrella the trend of losing 2 million tons of soil and 1 million hectares of pasture per year will continue. Then, because the cultivation sector will not be able to meet the demands of the cattle sector, production of animal protein in this country will face enormous problems.

He said: There are about 90 million hectares of pasture in Iran. Some 14 million of this is first-grade pasture and 24 million hecatres are second-grade. The rest is poor, desert pasture and third-rate. If we compare this to a country like New Zealand—which at the moment is providing an important proportion of our meat—we see that that country only has 14 million hectares, the same area as our first-grade pasture, feeding 104 million cattle. If we do not count dairy products, the cattle produce 1.1 million tons of meat.

He recalled: Placing the management of cattle and natural resources in a proper organization, away from the existing situation, is the only way to save the natural resources and the only way to achieve self-sufficiency in the area of protein and will result in a powerful and unified organization of cattle and natural resources.

Engr. Seyfikaran, senior planning and programming expert at the Ministry of Construction Jihad and secretary of the Five-Year Plan cattle-planning committee, continued this discussion, and said: Under the present conditions we recognize the division between cattle and natural resources, on the one hand, and water, soil, and cultivation, on the other, to be the most workable division in the agricultural sector. Following the rejection of the plan to merge the two ministries in 1987, we reached the conclusion that we had no choice but to get the ranchers involved and to gain the help of this hard-working group to safeguard and restore the pastures and the natural resources, keeping in mind that 63 percent of the total cattle in the country are light cattle, sheep, and goats and the fact that the people who use pasture most are the ranchers. So in the future organization which will be the result of the division, the management of cattle and natural resources has to be unified. In countries similar to ours there is no situation where light cattle are kept within the system of fodder production, because that does not make economic sense.

In addition to all this, if we are to meet society's demands for cattle products we have no choice but to expand cattle production based on our natural resources. As secretary of planning for cattle in the Five-Year Plan, I believe that if we are to realize the programs set fourth for cattle and natural resources, there is no other way under present conditions than to form a unified body and management to organize the affairs of cattle and natural resources.

He recalled: Past experiences of the Construction Jihad in cattle affairs show that there will be no problem in carrying out the plan in terms of getting the help of all dedicated and active forces, both in the Construction Jihad and in the ministry of Agriculture. It will even be easier to reach higher goals.

Engr. Seyfikaran added: The activities of professional ranchers past and present show that they are able to move much better and are better able to solve their problems within the framework of a nongovernmental sector, especially within cooperatives. We believe that the government must act as a guide, supervisor, and supporter. Instead of getting directly involved in the issue it can act indirectly by solving the existing problems in cattle farming units. This is something that has been placed within the Five-Year Plan.

The senior expert is planning at the Ministry of Construction Jihad commented on some of the work done by the Construction Jihad which prove the expert ability of this revolutionary organization. He said: Manufacturing more than 4,000 sample silos for fodder in villages, rebuilding and improving housing units for cattle to the tune of 1.5 million square meters using bank credits, disinfecting areas for cattle, increasing the average weight of a lamb carcass from 18 kg to 20 kg and a cow carcass from 95 kg to 116 kg, are among Construction Jihad's activities.

He concluded: Queen bees for honey were imported in the past. Even after the revolution several shipments were imported. When the Construction Jihad came along and the people became organized some 40,000 bees were produced in the country which is unprecedented here.

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*Trade Relations With Pakistan To Increase

90AS0094L London KEYHAN in Persian
24 May 90 p 4

[Text] In the aftermath of the reports regarding the one-day visit of Pakistani premier Benazir Bhutto to the Islamic Republic, Pakistani news sources announced that economic and trade relations between Iran and

Pakistan have expanded and the volume of trade between the two countries during the current year will surpass $500 million.

Political observers believe that although the Pakistani premier's trip to Iran may have largely political overtones in connection with the support of the Islamic Republic for the separatist movement of the Kashmiri people, according to economic experts, this trip strengthens the foundation of the Pakistan-Turkey-Iran Economic Cooperation Organization and plays an effective role in this organization taking a more active part.

Mohsen Nurbakhsh, the Islamic Republic's minister of economic affairs and finance, who had traveled to Pakistan to participate in the fifth session of the Iran-Pakistan Joint Commission, which was held during the middle of last week, during the inaugural session of the commission, said: "During the past year, the level of boarder exchanges reached 100 million rupees from the previous level of 20 million rupees. In addition, in the fourth memorandum of understanding, the trade exchanges between the two countries had been designated to be $200 million. However, during 1989 the Islamic Republic opened a credit line of $420 million for the purchase of goods from Pakistan."

The Islamic Republic's minister of economic affairs and finance stated the present volume of trade between the two countries to be about $550 million. He added that, from this amount, $135 million was for the export of oil and the value of non-oil exports to Pakistan was $500,000.

Ahsanul Haq Piracha, Pakistan's Minister of State for Finance, announced that in addition to the present cooperation with Iran, Pakistan wishes to expand its relations with Tehran is all areas.

During the past week, the Pakistani press printed reports of the possibility of the expansion of politico-economic ties between Tehran and Islamabad. They predicted that the volume of trade between the two countries will increase in the future. One of the daily newspapers printed in Karachi wrote: "While indicating his government's readiness for the expansion of ties with Pakistan in various fields, Mohsen Nurbakhsh, the Islamic Republic's minister of economic affairs and finance, announced that Iran is ready to invest in the construction of oil and gas pipelines and a refinery in Pakistan."

*Discussions With EC Reportedly Unproductive

90AS0094N London KEYHAN in Persian 24 May 90 p 2

[Text] Discussions between representatives of the European Common Market and emissaries of the Islamic Republic, which took place on Wednesday and Thursday of last week [16 and 17 May], were not fruitful. These discussions were held at the requested of the Islamic Republic in order to open the door for cooperation with 12 countries comprising the European Common Market. During the two-day discussions, in which the Islamic Republic was represented by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Director-General for Western European and American Affairs, various issues such as the problem of the Western hostages in Beirut, the possibility of getting financial assistance and bank credits from the European Common Market, and taking advantage of technical and technological cooperations were brought up and discussed in general terms.

The Islamic Republic News Agency, in its political analysis, which was broadcast one day after the Dublin talks, did not mention any positive outcome of these discussions.

The Islamic Republic News Agency's commentator stated the European political changes which will go into effect in 1993 as the reason for Iran's request for discussions with the European Common Market. He said: "In order to fall in step with current and future developments in the European Community, The Islamic Republic is trying to chart the future course of its relations with it."

The Islamic Republic News Agency's reporter also confirmed that the issue of the freedom of Western hostages in Lebanon was discussed, and the director-general of the Islamic Foreign Ministry had stated that: "The freedom of hostages does require any negotiations. One side has shown good will and now it is the turn of the other side to prove its good will."

During the Dublin discussions, attended by the political director-generals of Southern Ireland, Italy, and France in the Common Market, it was expected that a meeting between the representatives of the Islamic Republic and the British government would take place. However, the Islamic Republic's delegation set the condition that such talks should include the issue of Salman Rushdi and, as a result, the meeting did not take place.

We must note that presently the relations between the Islamic Republic and Italy are closer than with any other member country of the European Common Market.

According to political observers, no special change in the relations between the Islamic Republic and the European Common Market can be expected in the short term.

*Interior Ministry Appointments Announced 29 Apr

90AS0094M Tehran JOMHURI-YE ESLAMI in Persian 29 Apr 90 p 2

[Text] News Bureau—According to the report from the Public Relations [Office] of the Ministry of Interior, the following appointments were made by separate decrees from Hojjat ol-Eslam Nuri, the minister of interior:

1. Seyyed Mostafa Mirian, to the post of deputy governor-general of Khuzestan for reconstruction affairs.

2. Mohammad Javad Fada'i, to the post of deputy governor-general of Kerman for reconstruction affairs.

3. Hadi Nazarpur, to the post of deputy governor-general of Mazandaran for reconstruction affairs.

4. Khosrow Erteqa'i, to the post of deputy governor-general of Semnan for reconstruction affairs.

5. Seyyed Ahmad Ava'i, to the post of politico-security deputy governor-general of Khuzestan.

6. Farajollah Maleki, to the post of governor of Babolsar.

7. 'Ali Ra'yati-Rad, to the post of governor of Sarband.

*Economic Reasons Behind Hostage Release Viewed

90AS0079E London KEYHAN in Persian 10 May 90 p 12

[Text] **Kamran Fazel, a reporter for the prestigious SUNDAY TIMES, has prepared a report from Tehran about the bankrupt economy and the tremendous increase in prices of the public needs and their political and social ramifications in Iran. A translation of the report follows:**

Last week in the streets of Tehran, pressure for the release of Western hostages in Lebanon increased severely. Not that veiled women who hurry from one store to another to find their daily needs speak about the hostages and their release, or even place any importance on the fate of the hostages, rather, in the streets of Tehran, it is the continuous increase in the price of rice that creates the pressure for the release of hostages in Lebanon.

Pressure for the release of the hostages in Lebanon escalated last week in the Tehran streets. Of course, what is meant by this pressure is not that veiled women are running from one store to the next discussing the Western hostages, or even their fate. Rather, the reason for this pressure is the sad rise in the price of rice. If the increase in the price of rice, which was 80 percent last year, continues, the wave of Iranian discontent with the officials of the regime will become more widespread.

The economic situation of Iran has worsened since the death of Ayatollah Khomeyni. Since the death of Khomeyni last June, the shortage of foodstuff, the increase in prices, unemployment, and the increase in rental housing fees have frustrated the people.

Last week in a popular radio program in which citizens are interviewed over the telephone, many of the interviewees strongly criticized the government for its inability to meet its promises in the area of improving the economic situation and fighting price hiking through rationing those items needed by the people.

A woman said to the host of this radio program that she has been unable to buy Iranian rice for some time and is therefore buying Pakistani rice. In this program, not even one person referred to the hostages in Lebanon as the issue of the day.

Extreme anxiety about the economic situation of Iran was the main reason for Hashemi-Rafsanjani releasing the American hostages and moving closer to the West. But at the same time, in doing this, Hashemi-Rafsanjani has decided to walk a thin and dangerous tightrope. While this action of Hashemi-Rafsanjani has been welcomed by Washington, it has caused him to face a barrage of criticism from his opponents. This has been the greatest gamble that Hashemi-Rafsanjani has engaged in during the nine months of his government.

By now, Hashemi-Rafsanjani has realized that he must certainly put the destroyed economy of Iran in order after the eight-year war with Iraq. He knows that in order to retrieve the $12 billion in Iranian assets in the United States and also to find a market once again for Iranian oil in the United States, he will have to reconcile with this superpower. In trying to achieve these goals, Hashemi-Rafsanjani faces strong opponents, such as 'Ali Akbar Mohtashemi, the former minister of interior, and his allies.

These extremists insist that the present officials of Iran conduct themselves in the same way that the country was operated while Ayatollah Khomeyni was alive and avoid any sort of dealing or contact with the Great Satan (the United States).

If Hashemi-Rafsanjani deviates too much from the path drawn up by Ayatollah Khomeyni, Mohtashemi and those like him will rise up against him under the pretext of his having betrayed the "imam."

But Hashemi-Rafsanjani believes that he must take some steps to prevent the economic situation of the country from worsening.

Hit-and-Run Actions of the Young People in Mellat Park

The discontent and protests that occurred in Tehran recently have been unprecedented since 1979, when Khomeyni rebelled against the shah.

In the demonstrations in Mellat Park since a few weeks earlier, when a group of young people from Tehran shouted slogans against the Islamic Republic in a hit-and-run manner, when the officials of the committee would arrive, they would scatter, only to assemble once again after a little while.

The reason for the unrest is quite simple:

The fifty-three million people who live in Iran are in a constant battle against increasing poverty. Even the government plan to fight high prices has become cause for concern.

The price of a kg of beef, which was $1.20 (dollars at the open-market price), has now reached $2.00. The price of rice has also increased by 80 percent, reaching $1.00 per kg (dollar at the open-market price). The only food item which is relatively inexpensive is bread, which is heavily subsidized by the government.

In order to prevent rumors about the increase in the prices and constant hoarding of foodstuff, the government has instructed bakers to bake bread outside the store and in public view.

The Main Pressure Is on the Employees and Workers

The salaries and wages of employees in Iran are very low, such that a teacher receives a salary of only $50 per month. For this reason, most people in Iran have more than one job and many of them use their private cars to drive people for a fee.

Another sign of the undesirable economic situation in Iran is the search for a way to fight profitable and wealthy merchants and businessmen who are particularly pursued by the press.

The Iranian press has named these powerful businessmen economic terrorists and blames all the problems related to high prices and shortages of needed goods on them, accusing them of hoarding the goods needed by the people.

Problems of Extraction and Sale of Oil

Another great problem of the Islamic Republic is in the area of exporting and sale of oil, which is the only source of revenues from oil.

At the present, due to the bombings and destruction of a part of the oil facilities, this country is unable to extract and sell 3,140,000 barrels of oil, which is the quota set within the OPEC framework. The maximum capability of Iranian oil for export at the present is 2,900,000 barrels per day.

With the U.S. markets not purchasing Iranian oil, the Islamic Republic has to offer its oil to private customers. At the same time, with the decline in the price of oil on the world markets, many of the oil traders and dealers avoid buying Iranian oil.

Under such circumstances, Hashemi-Rafsanjani is caught between the extremists on the one hand and the discontented people on the other. Most Middle East affairs experts in the United States State Department and the British Foreign Office consider Hashemi-Rafsanjani to be the only hope for stability and improvement of conditions in Iran as well as the resolution of the issue of the hostages.

The loud voices of the extremist opponents of Hashemi-Rafsanjani last week created doubt about whether he has underestimated the power of these groups.

The strongest attacks last week were not directed towards the release of the two American hostages, but rather directed to the statements of Mohajerani, the deputy of Hashemi-Rafsanjani who advocated direct negotiations with the United States.

Late last week, Hashemi-Rafsanjani stopped speaking about direct negotiations with the United States and even called the U.S. officials spoiled people who did not show any desirable reaction to the release of the two hostages.

After hearing these statements by Hashemi-Rafsanjani, officials of the U.S. State Department were at a loss, not knowing what Hashemi-Rafsanjani had expected of them in order to have responded to him.

Perhaps the best place for compensating Hashemi-Rafsanjani for his kindness in releasing the two American hostages is the Hague Court, where the Iran-U.S. negotiations over the financial claims of the two countries entered a new phase last week.

In any case, Hashemi-Rafsanjani has left the way for proposals open. If the power of the extremists of the Islamic regime increases and they act more strongly, so to speak, and also if the government in Washington does not modify its position, Hashemi-Rafsanjani can pretend once again to join the extremists. In any case, Hashemi-Rafsanjani is a gambler and can save himself.

*Corruption, Dishonesty of Officials Detailed

90AS0079F London KEYHAN in Persian
10 May 90 p 12

[Text] **"The Society of Friends of Iran," based in London, in an examination of the levels of misuse and stealing by the leaders and officials of the Islamic Republic, has published new information in this area.**

Although the issue of stealing and bribery on the part of the leaders of the regime and their agents is not a hidden or untold story, so far, except for one case which was reported by the WASHINGTON POST, we have avoided publishing matters and announcements concerning the rumors of the existence of bank accounts and funds of the regime's leaders which have been published because we were not quite certain of their truth. Considering that it is possible that after the release of the Western hostages in Beirut, the regime of the Islamic Republic will have a free hand to receive huge amounts in loans from abroad and the Iranian assets in the United States will also be placed at the disposal of the regime, opening up ways for huge misuses and stealing on foreign purchases by petty and important agents of the regime of the Islamic Republic alike, the publication of a study based on facts and not rumors can clarify the fate of the financial resources and credit facilities that will be placed at the disposal of the regime of the Islamic Republic.

The study by "The Society of Friends of Iran" reveals interesting information concerning the procedures for receiving middlemen's fees and commissions by the leaders of the regime and their agents, which you shall read here.

Absolute power results in absolute corruption. By monopolizing power and bringing all the affairs of the lives of Iranians under their domination, the leaders of the Islamic Republic of Iran have in practice taken advantage of the trust of the people and squandered the national wealth of the country. They make use of the foreign currency belonging to the government organizations which are earmarked exclusively for the import of the needs of the country in their own interests, in order to add to their own wealth inside and outside the country.

According to careful studies, four to five percent of the oil revenues are deposited in the accounts of purchasing managers, executive directors, National Oil Company managers, government officials, and the board of directors of all the production and distribution centers, as well as the accounts of clerics with bank accounts in European countries.

Commission Rates from Government Transactions

According to European producers and factory owners, no deal takes place in Iran without the payment of dealers' fees. The higher the amount, the higher the payment to the middlemen of the transaction. According to information obtained by "The Society of Friends of Iran," the middlemen's fees paid so far are as follows:

Spare parts	7-15 percent
Machinery	10-20 percent
Steel	3 percent
Chemicals	3-5 percent
Pharmaceuticals	10-15 percent
Energy-generating motors	3-5 percent
Arms	25-100 percent
Chemical fertilizers	2-3 percent
Textiles	3 percent
Foodstuff and agricultural materials	2 percent
Hygiene products	10-20 percent
The sale of crude oil	10-20 cents per barrel

During the past 11 years, the clerics have organized different groups and carried out their transactions. Through them, these groups are operated in the form of pyramids, at the top of which are the leaders of the country. It is said that Rafsanjani, Musavi, Mohtashemi, Montazeri, Khamene'i, and Ahmad Khomeyni have been and are the heads of these groups. Considering their political position and power, they have succeeded in finding their way into various commercial establishments and new centers of purchasing and sales.

Some of the clerics have gone so far as to personally import the goods that are in short supply that are produced by domestic factories and the production of which has reached one-forth due to the lack of raw materials and foreign currency. Production shortages are a good pretext for more imports by government officials. An example of such misuse concerns railroad passenger cars. In 1989, the government purchased reconditioned, second-hand cars from West Germany while the domestic railroad car production factory, in a bind in terms of foreign currency to import raw materials and production of railroad cars in Iran, was trying every avenue despairingly. Another case was the purchase of 1,000 heavy oil tankers from Europe by the National Oil Company, while the Esfahan factory has a capacity to produce 1,300 of the same tanker annually. A third case was the import of purified shortening while producers of shortening in Iran need the raw materials to purify and produce shortening in Iran. Still another case was the import of 1,000 trucks from Scandinavia while the government has closed down the largest center of assembly and production of trucks in the country. It is known that the clerics are masters at snatching deals and signed contracts from one another, and each tries to take the upper hand. Usually it is done as follows: When an order reaches its final stages and the amount of the middleman's fees are determined and the middleman is informed of it in a letter, the Iranian path to the deal in Iran changes the purchasing manager and sends another middleman to receive the fees. In the meantime, since the seller is unable to pay the commission once again to the new middleman and on the other hand the managers who had started the deal do not want to continue their task or divide the profits with the new managers, the result is that the main contract is stopped by the new officials, the necessary items are not purchased and the shortages continue to harm the national economy.

A proforma which has gone through various stages in six months is sent to the bank for credit to be opened. While the funds are about to be released for the proforma, another company which is prepared to pay a higher commission replaces the first.

The governing groups are strongly in competition against one another to stop a plan or disrupt a deal.

Unfortunately, such activities, which from the viewpoint of the officials of the Islamic Republic and among themselves are considered a sort of entertainment, are very serious for the country and severely harm the national interests of the country.

$50 Million in Bribes to Rafsanjani

In October 1989, the minister of petroleum announced that according to the vote of the arbitration committee of the international courts, the National Iranian Oil Company reached an agreement with the American Company, [Eshland] that the above-mentioned company pay to the National Iranian Oil Company $282 million, the price of the crude oil it purchased from Iran in 1978, in addition to $43 million in interest, a total of $325 million. According to an American attorney who was involved in the court case, private discussions outside the court with high-ranking officials resulted in the agreement. The investigations of "The Society of Friends of Iran" indicate that the negotiations succeeded in resolving the quarrel by paying $50 million to the Rafsanjani group. It is not clear, if such an agreement is reached through private deals and promises, why the question has not occurred to any of the officials of the Islamic Republic of why the interest on $282 million for 10 years should be $43 million.

It seems that such negotiations and wheeling and dealing have occurred frequently in solving the differences between the Iranian government and American and European countries.

In August 1988, it was revealed that the managers of Saipa factory had embezzled 7.4 billion rials (57 million pounds sterling) by paying bribes and forging documents. A large amount of the stolen money was divided between one of the deputy ministers of heavy industry and two clerics. In another case, which was also exposed in the Majles, the amount of $55 million, which was allocated to the Guard Corps for purchasing a weapons production factory, was stolen by the officials in charge of the Guard Corps, and the above-mentioned factory was never purchased.

These cases are only some of the misuses of the clerics who pocket the national wealth of the country.

The middleman fees which are usually paid to one person are divided by the middleman among his close colleagues.

At present, the economic situation of Iran is that of a limited economy controlled by a small gang. At the head of this gang is Hashemi-Rafsanjani, whose cronies are placed in decision-making positions for major purchases and sales of oil and who make the main decisions. Since the election of Rafsanjani as president, all importing contracts have been renegotiated by new middlemen.

An Italian exporter said:

"Even after negotiations with the leaders of two groups and paying their fees, I am still not sure whether or not the contract will be implemented unless I see the open credit receipt on my desk."

Bribes from the Oil Revenues of the Country

The amount paid to clerics and government officials as middleman fees is calculated on the average of 4.5 percent of the oil revenues, as follows:

Year	Oil Revenues in U.S. Dollars (According to 1988 OPEC Bulletin)	Commission or Middleman Fees
1979	$19,186,000,000	$ 863 million
1980	$13,286,000,000	$ 598 million
1981	$12,053,000,000	$ 542 million
1982	$19,233,000,000	$ 865 million
1983	$19,225,000,000	$ 865 million
1984	$12,255,000,000	$ 551 million
1985	$13,115,000,000	$ 590 million
1986	$ 7,183,000,000	$ 323 million
1987	$10,515,000,000	$ 473 million
1988	$ 8,170,000,000	$ 367 million
1989	$11,443,000,000	$ 515 million
		Total:$6,562,000,000

The leaders of the country on the one hand receive middleman fees for exporting oil and on the other for using the same revenues when importing the necessary items of the country. Also, it is said that clerics controlling the foreign currency are the main dealers in foreign currency on the black market.

Such corruption and dishonesty in the past 11 years in Iran has progressed to the point of crime. The operators of the government, controlling the economic affairs of the country and the national resources, have created a center of corruption and misuse. Five cents out of every foreign currency dollar go into the pockets of the clerics and those close to them, not including the bribes that they receive from the Iranian nation inside and outside the country.

Clerics the Richest People in the Country

Rafsanjani, Ahmad Khomeyni, Sadeq Tabataba'i, Mehdi Karrubi and his brother, Gharazi, and Behzad Nabavi are among the richest Iranians inside the country.

According to the American journalist, Jack Anderson, a CIA [Central Intelligence Agency] report states that these individuals, particularly Hashemi-Rafsanjani, have pocketed hundreds of millions of dollars from the sale of Iranian oil. They have opened accounts in European banks under assumed names. Rafsanjani, Sadeq Tabataba'i, and the head of the Guard Corps received huge amounts during the Iran-Iraq war in commissions from the purchase of arms from international sellers and also from the governments of other non-Western countries.

Misuse by the clerics and their allies is not exclusive to the oil revenues. They have set roots in all the international affairs of the country. According to the FINANCIAL TIMES published on 17 November 1989: "The government officials are drowned in corruption, and committees are engaged in receiving bribes and hush money from the people. In order to issue a permit for an engagement party or a party with music and dancing, they receive huge bribes from the people. Corruption and misuse by the agents of the regime are the main subject of discussion among Iranians inside the country. The domestic economy is like a source of easy income for those who wheel and deal with the main officials."

Those who apply for exit visas from the country or those who want to protect their property (homes, land, factories, farms) from being confiscated by the government or those who are trying to find a way to save their loved ones in prisons, on the whole anyone who has anything to do with the government for any reason, must pay huge amounts to the officials from top to bottom. Then, after paying large amounts, one still cannot be sure that what he wants will be done.

The clerics openly take money from the people and do not intend by any means to hide it.

The rate for releasing a piece of real estate confiscated by the Mostaz'afan [Oppressed] Foundation is between 15-25 percent of the price of the property at the time. The cost for sending valuable items (such as carpets and antiques) is 50 percent of the price of the object.

Considering the rate of economic inflation, each one of these payments of many million rials pours into the pockets of the clerics every time.

Luxury homes which were build during the past regime are now occupied by the leaders of the Islamic Republic. According to a real estate dealer in Shemiran: "I know the names and personal histories of those whose homes were confiscated or who were forced to sell their homes, but I do not know who has bought them or where they got the money to do so."

Plunder of the National Wealth

The national wealth has not been safe from the clerics, who have an insatiable appetite for property. Antiques and art objects which have been confiscated from homes and galleries by the agents of the "general revolution prosecutor's office" are sold abroad by the bazaar antique dealers who have connections with the clerics. Some of these valuable items have been sold at auctions in London and Geneva.

With such bribery, the leaders of the Islamic Republic have taken the population of 53 million Iranians hostage and have created nests of corruption and deception which are unimaginable.

More than $6.5 billion of the oil revenues have been deposited in Swiss banks in the names of the clerics and their dependents.

This regime which claims to be the supporter of the poor and the "oppressed" has betrayed the principles and goals of the revolution and, most importantly, Islam. Under the banner of the people's and religious power, they have plundered the national wealth. According to a Middle Eastern politician having returned from a visit to Iran: "They act like highway robbers." Some of them live a kingly life. They claim that they support the oppressed, but the poor have become much poorer than they were 10 years ago.

One of the leaders opposing the Islamic Republic in Geneva, who is trying to find out the amount of bank deposits by the leaders of the Islamic Republic, said to The Society of Friends of Iran: "The clerics and those close to them know that they will be in power only for a short time. Since their philosophy is in fact 'anti-progress,' their main goal is to fill their own pockets as much as possible and bring their wealth to such a point that when the situation changes, they will be ready. Everyone in Iran knows that the clerics have never been generous or giving. Even in spiritual terms, they have always been the takers."

It is not just a few people who are plundering the national wealth. Rather, all the clerics affiliated with the Islamic Republic, each and every one, along with their friends and relatives are plundering the country. They have absolute power, and we know that absolute power results in absolute corruption.

Nepal

King Approves Draft of Local Council Changes

BK1306133090 Hong Kong AFP in English 1315 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Kathmandu, June 13 (AFP)—King Birendra has approved draft legislation from Nepal's interim government for new village, town and district development councils, an official source said Wednesday [13 June]. The new councils will replace those dissolved when the king lifted a ban on political opposition and ended the country's 30-year partyless Panchayat system two months ago, after seven weeks of violent pro-democracy demonstrations.

Development councils are responsible for all aspects of local government, from setting taxes to carrying out public utility projects, officials said. Under the Panchayat system, the local development councils played an important role in decentralizing state administration, a local development ministry official said.

In the absence of a national parliament, King Birendra has given full legislative authority to the interim coalition government led by Krishna Prasad Bhattarai—which passed the bills before submitting them to the king for approval, a statement from the Royal Palace said Wednesday [13 June].

Meanwhile, left-wing activists launched renewed protests at an open-air theater here Tuesday [12 June], drawing more than 15,000 people and calling for immediate abolition of the Panchayat constitution and introduction of an interim charter. The conservation minister, Jhala Nath Khanal, told the rally that recent political changes in the Himalayan kingdon would be meaningless unless the Panchayat constitution were scrapped. He called on demonstrators to "foil the ill designs of reactionary elements" bent on environmental destruction. Mr. Khanal, who represents the Marxist-Leninist group of communists in the interim government, also called on Nepalese citizens to continue their struggle for an interim constitution and free elections.

Another communist leader, Siddhilal Singh, called the dissolution of parliamentary government 30 years ago a "betrayal." "The king should not allow himself to be misinformed and misled by a coterie of reactionary elements but ... should listen to the voice of the people," he said.

Envoy Allays Fears of Indian 'Hegemony'

BK1206130790 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] India has made it clear that it has no hegemonistic designs over Nepal. Addressing a reception organized by the Indo-Nepal Friendship Association in Kathmandu, the Indian ambassador to Nepal, Lieutenant General S.K. Sinha, said the fear that India wants to establish hegemony over Nepal on the plea of security is completely baseless. There is total equality and complete reciprocity in the security clause of the Delhi agreement.

New Janata Dal Political Party Founded

BK0806145590 Kathmandu External Service in English 1415 GMT 8 Jun 90

[Text] A new political party called Nepal Janata Dal headed by Hari Prasad Pokharel has been formed in Kathmandu. The party has the objective of [words indistinct] the consolidation of the multiparty democratic system and fighting against corruption and revengeful activities in a democratic manner.

King Grants Amnesty to 62 Christians

HK1206115290 Hong Kong AFP in English 0842 GMT 12 Jun 90

[Text] Kathmandu, June 12 (AFP)—King Birendra has granted an amnesty to 62 Christians being held in connection with spreading Christianity in the Hindu kingdom of Nepal, a palace statement said Tuesday [12 June].

"On the recommendation of the prime minister, Krishna Prasad Bhattarai, and in the present changed political context, his majesty has granted amnesty to all those imprisoned or on bail pending appeal in connection with proselytizing or conversion," the statement said.

A home ministry official said 29 of the 62 Christians, including Tom Mendies, an American-born Nepalese passport holder, had been jailed for between one and six years for preaching Christianity or converting to the faith. The source said that the 33 others were out on bail and faced at least one year of prison if the court finds them guilty of similar offenses.

A five-member International Christian delegation visited Nepal at the end of May and appealed to Nepalese Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarai for the release of imprisoned Christians and the withdrawal of cases pending against others. The delegation was led by David Atkinson, a conservative member of the British House of Commons, and included an assistant to a U.S. congressman as well as church officials from the United States and Switzerland.

The imprisonment and alleged torture of the Nepalese Christian minority was partly responsible for giving Nepal its reputation for violating human rights and religious freedom during a 30-year-old partyless system. The system was dissolved in April and replaced with an opposition-led coalition government following a two-month popular movement for multi-party democracy.

The Christian delegation called on Nepalese officials to include religious freedom and rights of conversion in a new constitution which is currently being developed by a high-level commission headed by Supreme Court Justice Biswo Nath Upadhyay. The Christian and Islamic communities are currently demanding that the government declare Nepal a secular state that guarantees religious freedom, while the majority Hindus have opposed the call in the interest of tradition. About 90 per cent of Nepal's population is Hindu.

Observers here said the king, acting on a recommendation from the coalition government, made a significant conciliatory gesture amid such passions.

Prime Minister Interviewed on Regional Issues

WA1406160890

For the text of an interview of Prime Minister Krishna Prasad Bhattarai by TASS correspondent Dmitriy Makarov which appeared in the 5 June Morning Edition of IZVESTIYA, see the Near East & South Asia section of the 14 June Soviet Union DAILY REPORT.

Pakistan

Amanullah Khan Comments on Kashmir Issue

BK1206115990 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 12 Jun 90 p 4

[Article by Amanullah Khan, chairman of Jammu, Kashmir Liberation Front, entitled: "Kashmir and Apathy of the West"]

[Text] The Kashmir issue, which captured headlines of the world press from late forties to mid-fifties, in mid-sixties and again in early seventies, has once more become a burning international topic and will now remain so until Kashmiris are given their deserved and pledged right of self-determination. Though nothing was publicly said about it due to political and diplomatic expediencies, this issue was among the main topics discussed by Presidents Bush and Gorbachev during their recent meeting in Washington.

Let us look at the actual state of affairs now prevailing in Indian-held part of Kashmir and ask in the light of it to what extent the present attitude of Western democracies towards the Kashmir issue is justified.

Despite all foreign journalists having been shunted out of Kashmir and the local ones being under heavy pressure from the Indian government to present only the government version about the state of affairs prevailing there, the news of Indian brutalities do come out one way or the other. These brutalities are presented by Indians in a way to greatly diminish their magnitude. Numbers of Kashmiris shot dead by Indian forces of occupation are minimised to the maximum extent.

One important example of this was the incident of 21st May, 1990, when mourners carrying the dead body of the assassinated Mirwaiz Muhammad Faruq were fired at indiscriminately and about 250 of them were killed and many others injured, while the official version reduced the death toll to just 17 and later raised it to 27, claiming further that the firing was done by armed forces in 'self-defence' when in fact none of the mourners was armed. Similarly, about the January 20-21, 1990 incident the official version had put the casualties at 35 whereas the actual figure had crossed 200. No official mention has so far been made of the Kashmiri youth tortured to death in interrogation camps or physically crippled for life, whereas the numbers in these two categories have reached three-digit figures.

What further illustrates the extent of Indian authorities' callousness is that the bodies of those tortured to death are burnt or thrown into river rather than being buried in accordance with Islamic rituals. In most of the cases, the near and dear ones of those tortured to death just don't get to know anything about their fate.

Continuous curfew in the Kashmir Valley has become the order of the day since December 1989. Round-the-clock curfew remained imposed in Srinagar, the summer capital of Kashmir, from April 6 to 20 with the result that the dead remained unburied, the sick without treatment and others without food. To add to it, the Indian forces of occupation kept on walking into houses even during dead of night, 'in search of militants' and kept on looting them, beating up men, women and children and raping women and even very young girls whenever they liked. Anybody trying to come out of his house was shot dead. The 15 day curfew without a single minute's break was clearly meant to starve 800,000 inhabitants of Srinagar (99 percent of them Muslims) to death. There is undeniable evidence that the Indian government has been executing its plan to shoot, torture to death or physically cripple every Kashmiri Muslim youth between the ages of 16 and 30. No representative of any international humanitarian organisation, including those of the International Commission on Human Rights, Amnesty International and International Red Cross, has so far been allowed to visit Kashmir lest Indian savagery in Kashmir is fully exposed.

As the former governor of Kashmir ('Jag Mohan the beast,' Kashmiris called him) has publicly confessed, all this was done under his orders, approved in advance by Mr. V.P. Singh the Prime Minister of India. This is the way the people at the helm of affairs in the 'biggest democracy on earth' and the 'moral leader of the Third World' as Western democracies are not tired of calling India, are treating Kashmiris whose only 'crime' is that they are demanding of India to concede to them their inherent, inalienable, pledged, internationally recognised and most deserved right of self-determination.

India has been claiming Kashmir as her integral part. That claim can be valid only under the jungle law of might being right. It is totally devoid of any legal, constitutional or moral justification. Firstly, the Hindu ruler of Muslim Kashmir (80 percent of 12 million Kashmiris are Muslims) had no moral, legal or constitutional right to sign the instrument of Kashmir's 'accession' to India (on which India now bases her claim) against the wishes of overwhelming majority of its people. Secondly, because hundreds of nationally and internationally made solemn pledges by Indian leaders committing India to the Kashmiris inherent right of self-determination are yet to be fulfilled. Had Kashmir been an integral or constitutional part of India, how could the leader of Indian delegation declare in the UN Security Council during its 227th meeting, "whether she (Kashmir) should withdraw from her accession to India and either accede to Pakistan or remain independent with a right to claim admission as a Member of the United Nations, all this we have recognised to be a matter for unfettered decision by the people of Kashmir, after normal life is restored there." Nor could Pundit Jawaharlal Nehru, then Prime Minister and most popular leader of India, have publicly declared in 1951. "Kashmir has been wrongly looked upon as a prize for India or Pakistan. People seem to forget that Kashmir is not a commodity for sale or to be bartered. It has an individual existence and its people must be the final arbiters of their future." Even the official map of the United Nations shows Kashmir distinctly separate from both India and Pakistan. As such, India's claim of Kashmir being her integral part is utter nonsense.

People at the helm of affairs in most of the western democracies are notorious for applying different standards for different international issues but their attitude towards Kashmir is a unique example of their duplicity. They strictly avoid making even a mention of Kashmiris' inherent, pledged and most deserved right of self-determination which forms the very basis of the issue, lest India get annoyed with them. To add insult to Kashmiris' injuries, these self-proclaimed 'civilised' heads of the governments of 'civilised' nations dub Kashmiri freedom-fighters as terrorists but keep mum about Indian savages in spite of the fact that the number of innocent Kashmiris killed by Indian brutes is over 100 times bigger than the number of informers and enemy agents killed by Kashmiri freedom-fighters who have not so far killed a single innocent person.

In the light of these hard facts, it seems evident that political, diplomatic, strategic and business expediencies have dominated the minds of the governments of the West so much that the sacred terms and phrases like 'conscience', 'respect for human and humanitarian values' and 'calling spade a spade' have become obsolete and meaningless for them.

Nevertheless, and notwithstanding the aforementioned agonising facts, we Kashmiris owe our heartfelt thanks to those individuals, institutions and organisations of the West who have been raising their voice in favour of our just cause and against the inhuman treatment Kashmiris are being subjected to by the Indian forces of occupation.

Police Seize Charas, Heroin in Attock 12 Jun

BK1206100990 Lahore THE NATION in English 12 Jun 90 p 3

[Text] Attock—Attock Police after foiling two attempts at narcotics smuggling has recovered 3,930 kgs of charas and 20 kgs of heroin worth millions of rupees.

Superintendent of Police, Attock, Ghulam Mohammad Khan said that on a tip-off Karachi-bound truck No. RIJ-8773 coming from Mardan was interecepted at Police Check Post, Attock Khurd. During a search, more than 106 maunds of charas was recovered from the cigarettes packets.

Similarly car No. QAA-2436 was also detained by Attock Khurd Police Check Post staff.

After a search of the car, 20 kgs of heroin which was stuffed in the engine, was also recovered.

Cases have been registered against Inam Ullah and Ikram of District Mardan for carrying charas. Similarly Afsar Khan and Wali Khan of tribal area have also been booked for carrying heroin.

DSP [Deputy Superintendent of Police] Sadar, Syed Arshad Hussain Shah is supervising the investigation of the cases.

More Narcotics Seized; Two Held

BK1306105590 Islamabad THE PAKISTAN TIMES in English 13 Jun 90 p 6

[Text] Attock—Attock Police has confiscated a big consignment of charas and opium worth millions of rupees weighing 1998 kg charas and 148 kg opium (total 60 maunds) and has also arrested two inter-provincial drug traffickers.

The consignment was being smuggled from NWFP [Northwest Frontier Province] to Punjab for onward shipping abroad. Superintendent of Police Attock Ghulam Mohammad Khan said that on tip off Truck No. SW-7093 loaded with kiln bricks was intercepted at check-post Attock Khurd and during the search narcotics hidden under the bricks were recovered.

Besides impounding vehicle a case has been registered against accused Mohammad Gul s/o [son of] Mahran Shah of Peshawar and Munawar Khan s/o Wazir Khan of Mardan. DSP [Deputy Superintendent of Police] Sadar Syed Arshad Hussain Shah is supervising the investigations.

Afghan Rebel Commander Assassinated in Peshawar

BK1306153290 Hong Kong AFP in English 1513 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] Peshawar, Pakistan, June 13 (AFP)—Nasirullah Shariatyar, a top field commander and a close associate of Afghan resistance leader Gulbuddin Hekmatyar was assassinated by unidentified gunmen here Monday [11 June], resistance sources said Wednesday [13 June].

Mr. Shariatyar was chief of the resistance's operation in northern Kunduz Province. Operating from Khanabad District of Kunduz, the guerrilla commander had rendered "meritorious services during the jihad (holy war)," the AFGHAN NEWS AGENCY (ANA) reported.

The agency run by Mr. Hekmatyar's Hezb-i-Islami faction said unknown assassins attacked the guerrilla leader late Monday in front of his Afghan colony house in this bordering Pakistani city. No arrests were made. His funeral in suburban Shamshatu was attended by prominent resistance leaders.

Mr. Shariatyar was the fifth important Afghan murdered in Peshawar this month.

Minister of State for Parliamentary Affairs Resigns

BK1306024490 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 13 Jun 90

[Text] The minister of state for parliamentary affairs, Dr. Sher Afghan, has submitted his resignation from the cabinet to the prime minister. Speaking at a news conference in Islamabad last night, he said he has resigned after filing a writ petition in the Lahore high court. Dr. Sher Afghan said he will continue his support to the prime minister and her government because, in his opinion, it is the only government and party [Pakistan People's Party] which can keep the country united.

Sri Lanka

'Full-Scale War Looming' as Army Increases Troops

BK1406093090 Hong Kong AFP in English 0920 GMT 14 Jun 90

[Text] Colombo, June 14 (AFP)—Sri Lankan naval gunboats and helicopter gunships pounded Tamil rebel positions in the northeast Thursday [14 June] in a bid to wrest back areas seized by the militants, officials and residents said. Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) rebels continued Thursday to beseige three Army camps in the country's east and attacked another in the north with mortar and rocket fire, military officials said. They said troops backed by military planes and the Navy were striking at the occupied areas in an attempt to regain control.

Unconfirmed reports said that more than 200 people have been killed so far in the fighting which began Monday [11 June]. With a full-scale war looming, the government continued to increase its troop strength in the northeast.

The officials said the Tigers began attacking the Kilinochchi camp in northern Jaffna early Thursday [14 June] killing one soldier and injuring 12. Officials said the LTTE suffered heavy casualties in fierce fighting that raged between the rebels and troops at Kilinochchi.

Military officials also said the three Army camps at Kiran, Kalmunai and Kalawanchikudy in the eastern districts of Ampara and Batticaloa continued to come under rebel fire for the fourth consecutive day.

Defence Secretary General Cyril Ranatunge said Thursday the Tigers captured the Kinniya police station in eastern Trincomalee, bringing to 18 the number of stations seized since rebels overran several stations in the east on Monday.

The fresh wave of violence in the north came as Minister of State for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne said Colombo was prepared to open fresh negotiations for a cease-fire after a truce scheduled for Wednesday [13 June] failed to take effect. He said government negotiator Shahul Hameed was awaiting a response from LTTE leaders to meet in Batticaloa for a new round of talks. But Mr. Wijeratne told reporters at a weekly press briefing in Parliament Thursday that positive steps had been taken to recapture the stations and 650-odd police personnel taken hostage by the rebels. He said that troops were being reinforced wherever necessary "and if they (the LTTE) do not come to discussions" and hand over the seized stations, policemen, arms and ammunition then "we have to force ourselves" to take them back.

Mr. Wijeratne said Colombo was not prepared to go on the offensive in order to avoid bloodshed "because a lot of innocent people can get killed in the process of crossfire." The government would keep an open mind but at the same time "we have to protect the public, police stations and Army camps and other installations," he added.

Mr. Wijeratne said there was heavy fighting between government troops and rebels but that "we are on the defensive and they are on the offensive."

Residents in the region said they heard continuous gunfire and saw movement of Air Force planes.

"That is what we are trying to avoid," Mr. Wijeratne said responding to allegations by the LTTE that civilians had been killed in aerial bombing of Kalmunai and Kalkudah in the east.

An LTTE statement, issued in London by its political wing and released here Thursday, also said more than 100 Tamil civilians were "massacred by Sri Lanka security forces" at Central Camp Village in Ampara District. The Tiger statement alleged that several women "were raped during this massacre" and added a Hindu temple was demolished in the region.

"The LTTE can say that," Mr. Wijeratne said. "They start something and do propaganda work against the government. The whole world knows them. They can't fool the world anymore." He said the LTTE leadership "has to take responsibility for all this (violence)."

The LTTE denied reports that more than 100 of the captured policemen were slaughtered. A police officer who escaped rebel custody in the Ampara area told authorities Wednesday that more than 100 policemen were massacred by the Tigers.

Efforts To End Fighting With LTTE Reported

BK1406030890 London BBC World Service in English 0215 GMT 14 Jun 90

[From the "Newsreel" program]

[Text] With no sign emerging of an end to the fighting in Sri Lanka's Eastern Province, the government's chief negotiator is to go to Batticaloa—the center of much of the violence—later today for talks with the political leadership of the Tamil Tigers [Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam, LTTE]. Our correspondent Christopher Morris sent us this report from the Sri Lankan capital Colombo:

[Begin Morris recording] The fighting appears to have spreads from Batticaloa and Amparai into the Trincomalee District. The Tigers are reported to have launched mortar attacks on several police stations in the area and they have also taken over a number of police stations in the Northern Province. Casualty figures on both sides in the east are reported to be high. Military sources say three battalions of troops, some 3,000 men, have been moved into the east from other parts of the country. The clashes began on Monday [11 June] when the Tigers ambushed an army lorry and occupied several police stations in the area, detaining up to 600 police personnel. It is still not clear what has happened to those who were detained, although government forces say they have reports that at least 115 policemen were shot in a single incident on Monday night. A statement released by the Tigers office in London has denied the killing of any captured police personnel.

Before the fighting began, the two sides had been holding peace talks for more than a year, and ironically it seems they were on the verge of making genuine political progress when the military truce collapsed. Attempts to resurrect the cease-fire have already failed once and it may be optimistic to expect today's talks in Batticaloa to produce anything more tangible. [end recording]